

THE RIVER

Bruce Springsteen

Tempo: 115 - Intro played by acoustic and harp:

Em G D C Am G C
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Em G
I come from down in the valley
D C
Where mister when you're young
Em G C G
They bring you up to do like your daddy done
C
Me and Mary we met in high school
G D/F# Em
When she was just seventeen
Am G C
We'd ride out of that valley down to where the fields were green

One bar pause, the the whole band begins to play

Em C
We'd go down to the river
D G
And into the river we'd dive
Em C D C
Oh down to the river we'd ride
Em G
Then I got Mary pregnant
D C
And man that was all she wrote
Em G C G
And for my nineteenth birthday I got a union card and a wedding coat
C
We went down to the courthouse
G D/#F Em
And the judge put it all to rest
Am
No wedding day smiles no walk down in the aisle
G C
No flowers no wedding dress

Em C
That night we went down to the river
D G
And into the river we'd dive
Em C D C
Oh down to the river we'd ride

Solo (harp) over 1 Verse, starts like intro

Hammond organ starts playing chords lying around note e

Em G D C
I got a job working construction for the Johnstown Company
Em G C G
But lately there ain't been much work on account of the economy
C
Now all them things that seemed so important
G D/F# Em
Well mister they vanished right into the air
Am
Now I just act like I don't remember
G C
Mary acts like she don't care

Em G
But I remember us riding in my brother's car
D C
Her body tan and wet down at the reservoir
Em G
At night on them banks I'd lie awake
C G
And pull her close just to feel each other breath she'd take
C
Now those memories come back to haunt me
G D/F# Em
They haunt me like a curse
Am
Is a dream a lie if it don't come true
G C
Or is it something worse

Chorus

Em C
That sends me down to the river

