PARADISE John Prine

D G D

When I was a child my family would travel

D A D

Down to Western Kentucky where my parents were born

D G D

And there's a backwards old town that's often remembered

D A D

So many times that my memories are worn.

**Chorus:**

**D G D**

**And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County**

**D A D**

**Down by the Green River where Paradise lay**

**D G D**

**Well, I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking**

**D A D**

**Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away**

Well sometimes we'd travel right down the Green River

To the abandoned old prison down by Adrie Hill

Where the air smelled like snakes and we'd shoot with our pistols

But empty pop bottles was all we would kill.

Chorus

Then the coal company came with the world's largest shovel

And they tortured the timber and stripped all the land

Well, they dug for their coal till the land was forsaken

Then they wrote it all down as the progress of man.

Chorus

When I die let my ashes float down the Green River

Let my soul roll on up to the Rochester dam

I'll be halfway to Heaven with Paradise waiting

Just five miles away from wherever I am.

Chorus