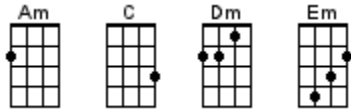


The Blackfly Song

Wade Hemsworth 1949



INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 /

[C]↓ 'Twas early in the spring, when I decide to go
For to [Am]↓ work up in the woods in north On-[Em]↓tar-i-o
And the [C]↓ unemployment office said they'd send me through
To the [Am] Little Abitibi with the [Em] survey crew

And the [Am] black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
I'll [Dm] die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
In [Dm] north On-tar-i-[C]o-i-o
In [C]↓ north On-[Em]↓tar-i-[Am]o [Am] / [C] / [C]

Now the [C] man Black Toby was the captain of the crew
And he [Am] said, "I'm gonna tell you boys [Em] what we're gonna do
They [C] want to build a power dam, we must find a way
For to [Am]↓ make the Little Ab flow a-[Em]↓round the other way"

With the [Am] black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
I'll [Dm] die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
In [Dm] north On-tar-i-[C]o-i-o
In [C]↓ north On-[Em]↓tar-i-[Am]o [Am] / [C] / [C]

So we [C] survey to the east, survey to the west
And we [Am] couldn't make our minds up [Em] how to do it best
Little [C] Ab, Little Ab, what shall I do
For I 'm [Am]↓ all but goin' crazy with the [Em]↓ survey crew

And the [Am] black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
I'll [Dm] die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
In [Dm] north On-tar-i-[C]o-i-o
In [C]↓ north On-[Em]↓tar-i-[Am]o [Am] / [C] / [C]

It was [C] black fly, black fly everywhere
A-[Am]crawlin' in your whiskers, a-[Em]crawlin' in your hair
[C] Swimmin' in the soup, swimmin' in the tea
The [Am]↓ devil take the black fly and [Em]↓ let me be

[Am] Black fly, the little black fly
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
 I'll **[Dm]** die with the black fly pickin' my bones
 In **[Dm]** north On-tar-i-**[C]**o-i-o
 In **[C]**↓ north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-**[Am]**o **[Am]** / **[C]** / **[C]**

Black **[C]** Toby fell to swearin', the work went slow
 And the **[Am]** state of our morale was a-**[Em]**gettin' pretty low
 And the **[C]** flies swarmed heavy, it was hard to catch a breath
 As you **[Am]**↓ staggered up and down the trail **[Em]**↓ talkin' to yourself

With the **[Am]** black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
 I'll **[Dm]** die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
 In **[Dm]** north On-tar-i-**[C]**o-i-o
 In **[C]**↓ north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-**[Am]**o **[Am]** / **[C]** / **[C]**

Well now the **[C]** bull cook's name was Blind River Joe
 If it **[Am]** hadn't been for him we'd have **[Em]** never pulled through
 'Cuz he **[C]** bound up our bruises, and he kidded us for fun
 And he **[Am]**↓ lathered us with bacon grease and **[Em]**↓ balsam gum

For the **[Am]** black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
 I'll **[Dm]** die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
 In **[Dm]** north On-tar-i-**[C]**o-i-o
 In **[C]**↓ north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-**[Am]**o **[Am]** / **[C]** / **[C]**↓

And at **[C]**↓ last the job was over, Black **[C]**↓ Toby said we're through
 With the **[Am]**↓ Little Abitibi and the **[Em]**↓ survey crew
 'Twas a **[C]**↓ wonderful experience and **[C]**↓ this I know
 I'll **[Am]**↓ never go again to north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-o

With the **[Am]** black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
 I'll **[Dm]** die with the black fly a-pickin' my bones
 In **[Dm]** north On-tar-i-**[C]**o-i-o
 In **[C]**↓ north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-**[Am]**o

With the **[Am]** black flies, the little black flies
[C] Always the black fly, no matter where you go
 I'll **[Dm]** die with the black fly a-**[Dm]**↓pickin' my bones < **SLOW** >
 In **[Dm]**↓ north On-tar-i-**[C]**↓o-i-o
 In **[C]**↓ north On-**[Em]**↓tar-i-**[Am]**↓o

