# The River

Bruce Springsteen 1981

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**INTRO: / 1 2 3 4 /**

**[Em] / [G] / [D] / [C] /**

**[Am] / [G] / [C] / [C]**

I **[Em]** come from down in the **[G]** valley

Where **[D]** mister when you're **[C]** young

They **[Em]** bring you up to **[G]** do

**[C]** Like your daddy **[G]** done

Me and **[C]** Mary we met in high school

When **[G]** she was just **[D]** seven-**[Em]**teen

We'd **[Am]** drive out of this valley

Down to **[G]** where the fields were **[C]↓** green **2 3 4 / 1 2**

We'd go **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river

And **[D]** into the river we'd **[G]** dive

Oh oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we’d **[D]** ride **[C]**

Then **[Em]** I got Mary **[G]** pregnant

And **[D]** man, that was all she **[C]** wrote

And **[Em]** for my 19th **[G]** birthday

I got a union **[C]** card and a wedding **[G]** coat

We **[C]** went down to the courthouse

And the **[G]** judge put it **[D]** all to **[Em]** rest

No **[Am]** wedding day smiles, no walk down the aisle

No **[G]** flowers, no wedding **[C]** dress

That night we went **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river

And **[D]** into the river we'd **[G]** dive

Oh oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we did **[D]** ride **[C]**

**INSTRUMENTAL:**

Then **[Em]** I got Mary **[G]** pregnant

And **[D]** man, that was all she **[C]** wrote

And **[Em]** for my 19th **[G]** birthday

I got a union **[C]** card and a wedding **[G]** coat

We **[C]** went down to the courthouse

And the **[G]** judge put it **[D]** all to **[Em]** rest

No **[Am]** wedding day smiles, no walk down the aisle

No **[G]** flowers, no wedding **[C]** dress **[C]**

I **[Em]** got a job working con-**[G]**struction

For the **[D]** Johnstown Company **[C]**

But **[Em]** lately there ain't been **[G]** much work

On ac-**[C]**count of the econo-**[G]**my

Now **[C]** all them things that seemed so important

Well mister **[G]** they vanished **[D]** right into the **[Em]** air

Now I just **[Am]** act like I don't remember

Mary **[G]** acts like she don't **[C]** care

But I re-**[Em]**member us riding in my **[G]** brother's car

Her body **[D]** tan and wet, down at the **[C]** reservoir

At **[Em]** night on them banks I'd **[G]** lie awake

And pull her **[C]** close just to feel each **[G]** breath she'd take

Now those **[C]** memories come back to haunt me

They **[G]** haunt me **[D]** like a **[Em]** curse

Is a **[Am]** dream a lie if it don't come true

Or **[G]** is it something **[C]** worse

That sends me **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river

Though I **[D]** know the river is **[G]** dry

That sends me **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river to-**[D]**night **[C]**

**[Em]** Down to the **[C]** river my **[D]** baby and **[G]** I

Oh oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we **[D]** ri-i-i-**[C]**ide

**[Em]** Oooooo **[C]** ooooo-oo-oo-oo **[D]** ooo oo-oo **[G]** oo **[Em] / [C] / [D]****↓**

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