Banks of the Ohio

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1I asked my love_ to go with me_ to take a
2Then on-ly say_ that you'll be mine_ In no_
3I asked your mo-_ther for you, dear,_ And she said

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- 4I held a knife_ a-gainst her breast,_ and gen-tly 5I took her hand_ byher lily white hand,_ Let her_

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6I start-ed backhome_twixt 12 and 1,_ Cry-ing my
  walk_ a lit-tle way,_ and as we walked
  o-_ther arms en-twine,_ Down be-side where
  you_were too_young._ On-ly say that
  in_ my arms she pressed._ Oh Wil-lie don't
  down_ bywhere thewa-ters stand._ I picked her up
  God,_ what have I done?_ I've mur-dered theonly
  _and as we talked,
  _the wa-ters flow,
  _you'll_ be mine,
  __mur-der me,
  _andI pitchd her in,
  _wo-man I love,
  _a-bout our gold-_en wed-ding day.
  _Down by the banks_ ofthe O-hi-o.
  _Hap-pi-ness in_ my home you'll find.
  _ForI'm un-pre-pared_ fore-ter-ni-ty.
  _Watched her as she_ float-_ed down.
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Be-cause she would not be my bride.