

Banks Of The Ohio

C G7 C

I asked my love to go with me,

G7 C

To take a walk a little way.

C7 F

And as we walked, and as we talked

C G7 C

About our golden wedding day.

Chorus:

Then only say that you'll be mine,

In no other arms entwine.

Down beside where the waters flow,

On the banks of the Ohio.

I asked your mother for you, dear,

And she said you were too young;

Only say that you'll be mine —

Happiness in my home you'll find.

I held a knife against her breast,

And gently in my arms she pressed,

Crying: Willie, oh Willie, don't murder me,

For I'm unprepared for eternity.

I took her by her lily white hand,

Led her down where the waters stand.

I picked her up and I pitched her in,

Watched her as she floated down.

I started back home twixt twelve and one,

Crying, My God, what have I done?

I've murdered the only woman I love,

Because she would not be my bride.