

Banks Of The Ohio

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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.