

Sweet South Anna River

By Alice Gerrard



Alice Gerrard

Alice Gerrard explains the backstory of this song:

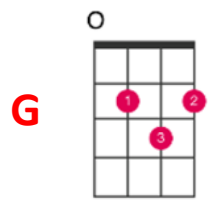
<https://youtu.be/IBOuzH4SOoM>



Elizabeth (Libba) Cotten

Song recorded in the original key of G#:

<https://youtu.be/2oypZfjwObE>



G D G
On the Sweet South Anna River

C G D

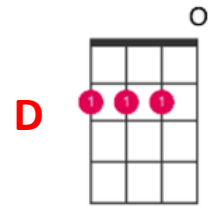
Where the leafy waters flow.

C G Em

She whiled away, her childhood days,

C D

In the sweet long ago.



G D G

Her voice echoed down the river,

C D

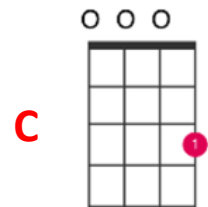
From the distant shores of home.

C G Em

Remember me, I was a queen,

C D

Don't you cry when I am gone.



G D G

Let the River carry me on,

C D

Past the redbud and the pines.

C G Em

And won't you sing to me, as I take my leave,

C D

You are going to miss me all the time

G D G

When my life on earth is over,

C D

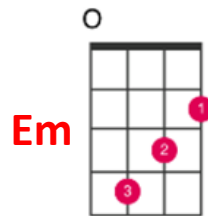
And the music fades away.

C G Em

Don't lay me down in the cold dark ground,

C D

In some lonesome old grave.



G D G

On the Sweet South Anna River,

C D

Where the soft breezes fan the air.

C G Em

Just lay me down, in a silvery gown,

C D

Wildflowers in my hair.

Instrumental

G D G

Let the River carry me on,

C D

Past the redbud and the pines.

C G Em

And won't you sing to me, as I take my leave,

C D

You are going to miss me all the time

G D G

On the banks of the Sweet South Anna,

C D

As far as I can see.

C G Em

As I pass by, old friends of mine

C D

Will wave good bye to me.

G D G

Let the River carry me on,

C D

Past the redbud and the pines.

C G Em

And won't you sing to me, as I take my leave,

C D

You are going to miss me all the time

C G Em

Remember me, I was a queen,

C D

You're going to miss me, when I am gone.



Yinayville Mill, Louisa County
South Anna River

