

Catfish John

A song written by Bob McDill and Allen Reynolds, and recorded by Johnny Russell. It was released in November 1972. It has also been recorded by Alison Krauss and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.

Intro: G / D / G / D / G / D / A / D /

[D] Mama said don't go [G] near that river
[D] Don't be hangin' 'round old Catfish [A] John
[D] Come the morning I'd [G] always be there
[D] Walking in his footsteps in [A] sweet delta [D] dawn.

Born a [G] slave in the town of [D] Vicksburg
Traded [G] for a chestnut [D] mare
He [G] never spoke a word in [D] anger
Though his [A] load was hard to [D] bear.

Mama said don't go [G] near that river
[D] Don't be hangin' 'round old Catfish [A] John
[D] Come the morning I'd [G] always be there
[D] Walking in his footsteps in [A] sweet delta [D] dawn.

Solo: G / D / G / D / G / D / A / D /

[D] Catfish [G] John was a river [D] hobo
He lived and [G] died on the river [D] bend
Lookin' [G] back I still re- [D] member
I was [A] proud to be his [D] friend.

Mama said don't go [G] near that river
[D] Don't be hangin' 'round old Catfish [A] John
[D] Come the morning I'd [G] always be there
[D] Walking in his footsteps in [A] sweet delta [D] dawn.

[D] Let me [G] dream of another [D] morning
And a [G] time so long a- [D] go
When the [G] sweet magnolias [D] blossomed
And the cotton [A] fields were white as [D] snow.

Mama said don't go [G] near that river
[D] Don't be hangin' 'round old Catfish [A] John
[D] Come the morning I'd [G] always be there
[D] Walking in his footsteps in [A] sweet delta [D] dawn.

Come the morning I'd [G] always be there
[D] Walking in his footsteps in [A] sweet delta [D] dawn.

