**The River Run Down (The Knox Mine Disaster)**

Chorus

The river run down, it run straight down

The river run down, straight down in a hole,

In the deep, dark ground// Down, down, down, in the deep dark ground.

Verse 1

In the winter of 59, I was only five years old

My grandpa was a miner, or so I was told.

Every day he went down deep in the cold cold ground

Trying to make a living in the only game in town.

Verse 2

I was born in the Wyoming Valley, I've got strong family ties.

I'll never move from the banks of this river, I'll live here 'till I die.

I've got the taste of pierogies and coal dust on my tongue,

I still remember the sound of the church bells that Friday when they rung.

Chorus

Verse 3

Around here when a boy grew up, he went down in the mine.

Some people say it's ugly, some people say it's fine.

A great big church and a little bar on every street reside.

Give me a shot and a beer, a little Jesus on the side.

Verse 4

The hard coal shines in the light of day

But underneath the river it was meant to stay.

The coal company said they could dig a little more

Though they knew they were getting close to the Susquehanna River floor.

Chorus

Verse 5

With a crack, and a rumble, and a terrible rush,

The river poured through like a giant flush.

A dozen honest working men were never seen again.

My neighbor, my Grandpa and Johnny, his best old friend.

Verse 6

You know two hundred train cars couldn't fill the hole

That the river cut that day through the veins of coal.

When the river run down, it carved a hole right through my soul,

As black as the coal, way down in that deep, dark hole.

Chorus