PARADISE
Key of D
by John Prine

D G D
1. When I was a child my family would travel
A D
Down to western Kentucky where my parents were born.
G D
There's a backwards old town that's often remembered
A D
So many time that my memories are worn.
D G D
Chorus: Daddy, won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County
A D
Down by the Green River where Paradise lay?
G D
Well I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking
A D
Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away.
D G D
2. Well, sometimes we'd travel right down the Green River
A G
To the abandoned old prison down by Adrie Hill
G D
Where the air smelled like snakes and we'd shoot with our pistols
A D
But empty pop bottles was all we would kill.

chorus
D G D
3. The coal company came with the world's largest shovel.
A D
They tortured the timber and stripped all the land.
G D
They dug for the coal 'til the land was forsaken.
A D
Then they wrote it all off as the progress of man.

chorus
D G D
4. When I die let my ashes float down the Green River.
A D
Let my soul roll on up to the Rochester Dam.
G D
I'll be halfway to heaven with Paradise waiting,
A D
Just five miles away from wherever I am.

chorus