



"Banks of the Ohio" is a 19th-century murder ballad, written by unknown authors, in which "Willie" invites his young lover for a walk during which she rejects his marriage proposal. Once they are alone on the river bank, he murders the young woman.

Banks of the Ohio

Olivia Newton John 1971

C G7 C <C>

[NC] I asked my **[C]** love to take a **[G]** walk
To take a **[G7]** walk just a little **[C]** walk
Down be**[C7]**side where the waters **[F]** flow
Down by the **[C]** banks **[G7]** of the Ohi**[C]**o **<C>**

[NC] And only **[C]** say that you'll be **[G]** mine
In no **[G7]** others' arms en**[C]**twine
Down be**[C7]**side where the waters **[F]** flow
Down by the **[C]** banks **[G7]** of the Ohi**[C]**o **<C>**

[NC] I held a **[C]** knife against his **[G]** breast
As in**[G7]**to my arms he **[C]** pressed
He cried my **[C7]** love don't you murder **[F]** me
I'm not pre**[C]**pared **[G7]** for eterni**[C]**ty **<C>**

[NC] And only **[C]** say that you'll be **[G]** mine
In no **[G7]** others' arms en**[C]**twine
Down be**[C7]**side where the waters **[F]** flow
Down by the **[C]** banks **[G7]** of the Ohi**[C]**o **<C>**

[NC] I wandered **[C]** home 'tween twelve and **[G]** one
I cried my **[G7]** God what have I **[C]** done
I've killed the **[C7]** only man I **[F]** love
He would not **[C]** take me **[G7]** for his **[C]** bride **<C>**

[NC] And only **[C]** say that you'll be **[G]** mine
In no **[G7]** others' arms en**[C]**twine
Down be**[C7]**side where the waters **[F]** flow
Down by the **[C]** banks **[G7]** of the Ohi**[C]**o
[F] Down by the **[C]** banks **[G7]** of the Ohi**[C]**o **<C>**

