

Catfish John (Studio Outtake)

Grateful Dead

Mama said, "Don't go near that river
Don't be hanging around Old Catfish John
Come in the morning, I'd always be there
Walking in his footsteps in the Sweet Delta Dawn"Take me back to another morning
To a time so long ago
When the sweet Magnolia blossomed
Cotton fields as white as snowCatfish John was a river hobo
Who lived and died by the river's bed
Looking back, I still remember
I was proud to be his friendMama said, "Don't go near that river
Don't be hanging around Old Catfish John
Come in the morning, I'd always be there
Walking in his footsteps in the Sweet Delta Dawn"Born a slave in the town of Vicksburg
Traded for a chestnut mare
Lord, her never spoke in anger
Though his load was hard to bearMama said, "Don't go near that river
Come in the morning, I'd always be there
Walking in his footsteps in the Sweet Delta Dawn
Walking in his footsteps in the Sweet Delta Dawn"

Songwriters

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