

The Whiskey or the Coal

Big Country Bluegrass

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Key of: "G" • G C D

INTRO: G C D G

Down in Appalachia, way back in those hills,

You can make a livin'™ in the mine, or with a moonshine still,

The choice it ain'™t easy, brother don'™t "ya know,

Either one, can get you killed, the whiskey or the coal,

Chorus:

The whiskey or the coal, which way will "ya go,

One will break your body, the other scars your soul,

You can take your chances in the mines, dodging those rock falls,

Or spend your time, runnin'™ shine dodgin'™ bullets and the law,

BANJO: G C D G --- G C D G

The mines an honest livin, that'™s what people say,

If "ya don'™t die young, ole'™ black lung will take your breath away,

Moonshine still ain'™t legal, back up in those hills,

But they ran shine before the mines and they probably always will,

Chorus:

FIDDLE: G C D G --- G C D G

Sherriff just " sent you word, we'™re gonna" shut you down,

Said you better mind, you can'™t run son, outa'™ my hometown,

You sent back your answer, be shut in when you're gone,
Don't be so high and mighty, you have three stills of your own,

Chorus:

Spend your time, runnin' shine dodgin' bullets and the law.....

Lyrics Submitted by Leonard

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