

# **BIG RIVER**

written and recorded by Johnny Cash (1958)

wh 01/24

**Key:** G    **Start Note:** D    **Time:** 4/4    **Strum:** D\_du D\_du

**Intro:** G / D7 / G //

## **CHORUS:**

/ G

*Well I taught that weepin' willow how to cry cry cry.*

*Showed the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.*

*The tears I cried for that woman – gonna flood you big river.*

*I'm a gonna sit right here until I die...*

G

1. I met her acci-dentally in St. Paul Minnes-sota.

It tore me up every-time I heard her drawl her southern drawl.

Then I heard my dream went back down-stream ca-vortin' in Daven-port

And I followed you big river when you called.....

## **CHORUS:**

G

*Well I taught that weepin' willow how to cry cry cry.*

*Showed the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.*

*The tears I cried for that woman – gonna flood you big river.*

*And I'm a gonna sit right here until I die...*

G

2. Well, I followed her down to St. Louie later on down the river

A freighter said she's been here but she's gone, boy, she's gone

Well I found her trail in Memphis but she just walked up the bluff

Raised a few eye-brows as she went on down a-lone.

**CHORUS:**

**G**  
*I taught that weepin' willow how to cry cry cry.*  
**A D7**  
*Showed the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.*  
**G G7 C C7**  
*The tears I cried for that woman – gonna flood you big river.*  
**G D7 G G**  
*And I'm a gonna sit right here until I die...*

**INSTRUMENTAL:**

**G G G G**  
Well, I followed her down to St. Louie later on down the river  
**G G A D**  
A freighter said she's been here but she's gone, boy, she's gone  
**G G C C**  
Well I found her trail in Memphis but she just walked up the bluff  
**G D7 G G //**  
Raised a few eye-brows as she went on down a-lone.

- / G**  
3. Won't you batten down by Baton Rouge, River Queen roll on  
**A D**  
Take that woman down to New Orleans, New Orleans  
**G C**  
Go on I've had e-nough, dump my blues down in the gulf.  
**G D7 G G**  
She loves you big river more than me.

**Outro:**

**G**  
*I taught that weepin' willow how to cry cry cry.*  
**A D7**  
*Showed the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.*  
**G G7 C C7**  
*The tears I cried for that woman – gonna flood you big river.*  
**G D7 G**  
*And I'm a gonna sit right here 'til I die...*  
**G D7 G**  
*I'm gonna sit right here until I die....*  
**G D7 G D↓ G↓**  
*I'm gonna sit right here until I dieeeee*