

Key: G **Capo:** **Notes:** The chords and capo effectively makes the in the Key of D

[Intro]

G

[Chorus]

G C
Take 'em away, take 'em away, Lord
G D
Take away these chains from me
G C
My heart is broken 'cause my spirit's not free
G D G
Lord, take away these chains from me

[Verse 1]

G C
Some bird feathers are too bright to be caged
G D
I know I'm not that colorful but a bird just the same
G C
Open up your gate now let me put down my load
G D G
So I can feel at ease and go back to my home

[Chorus]

[Verse 2]

G C
Sun beatin' down my legs can't seem to stand
G D
There's a boss man at a turnrow with a rifle in his hand
G C
I've got nine children, nothin' in the pan
G D G
My wife she died hungry while I was plowin' land

[Chorus]

[Instrumental]

G - C - G - D G - C - G - D - G

[Verse 3]

G C
Can't see when I go to work, can't see when I get off
G D
How do you expect a man not to get lost
G C
Every year I just keep getting deeper in debt
G D G
If there's a happy day, Lord, I haven't seen one yet

[Chorus]

[Verse 4]

G C
Land that I love is the land that I'm workin'
G D
But it's hard to love it all the time when your back is a-hurtin'
G C
Gettin' too old now to push this here plow
G D G
Please let me lay down so I can look at the clouds

[Chorus]

[Instrumental]

G - C - G - D G - C - G - D - G

[Verse 5]

G C
The land that I know is where two rivers collide
G D
The Brazos, the Navaso and the big blue sky
G C
Flood plains, freight trains, watermelon vines
G D G
Of any place on God's green earth, this is where I choose to die

[Chorus]

[Outro]

G - C - G - D G - C - G - D - G