

YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE HARLAN ALIVE

VERY LOOSE TIME (rubato)

Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2
In the deep, dark hills of eastern Kentucky
Em-2 G-2 C-4
That's the place where I trace my bloodline
C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2
And it's there I read on a hillside gravestone

STRUM TIME (TEMPO)

C-2 B7-2 Em-4 Em-4
You will never leave Harlan alive

Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2
Well my granddad's dad walked down Katahrins Mountain
Em-2 G-2 C-4
And he asked Tillie Helton to be his bride
C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2
Said, won't you walk with me out of the mouth of this holler
C-2 B7-2 Em-4
Or we'll never leave Harlan alive

G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
Where the sun comes up about ten in the morning
Em-4 F-1 G-1 C-2
And the sun goes down about three in the day
G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
And you fill your cup with whatever bitter brew you're drinkin'
Em-4 F-2 [Em-4]
And you spend your life just thinkin' of how to get away

Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2
No one ever knew there was coal in them mountains
Em-2 G-2 C-4
'Til a man from the Northeast arrived
C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2
Waving hundred dollar bills said, I'll pay you for your minerals
C-2 B7-2 Em-4 C-2 B7-2 Em-4
But he never left Harlan alive

Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2
Granny sold out cheap and they moved out west of Pineville
Em-2 G-2 C-4
To a farm where big Richland River winds
C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2
I bet they danced them a jig, laughed and sang a new song
C-2 B7-2 Em-4
Who said we'd never leave Harlan alive

SOLO

| Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2 | Em-2 G-2 C-4 |
| C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2 | C-2 B7-2 Em-4 |

Em-2 G-2 D-2 A-2
But the times they got hard and tobacco wasn't selling
Em-2 G-2 C-4
And ole granddad knew what he'd do to survive
C-2 G-2 D-2 A/C#-2
He went and dug for Harlan coal And sent the money back to granny
C-2 B7-2 [Em-4]
But he never left Harlan alive

SOFTLY (MEZZO PIANO)

G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
Where the sun comes up about ten in the morning
Em-4 F-1 G-1 C-2
And the sun goes down about three in the day
G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
And you fill your cup with whatever bitter brew you're drinkin'
Em-4 F-2 Em-2
And you spend your life just thinkin' of how to get away

LOUDER (MEZZO FORTE)

G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
Where the sun comes up about ten in the morning
Em-4 F-1 G-1 C-2
And the sun goes down about three in the day
G-4 C-1 D-1 G-2
And you fill your cup with whatever bitter brew you're drinkin'

HOLD (FERMATATA)

Em-4 F-4 (Em)
And you spend your life digging coal from the bottom of your grave

VERY LOOSE TIME (rubato)

Em

In the deep, dark hills of eastern Kentucky

Em

C

That's the place where I trace my bloodline

Em

And it's there I read on a hillside gravestone

Em

Em

You will never leave Harlan alive
