

THE MURRUMBIDGEE

(Neil Murray)

I wish I was a riverman living off the land
I'd build myself a shack upon the bank
I'd catch a feed of yellow belly or yabbies with a net
And I'd never want for more than I could eat
on the Murrumbidgee

It rises in the mountains and meanders on the
plains A long way west to Balranald
A flood at Gundagai in 1852
Yarri saved the settlers with his bark canoe
on the Murrumbidgee
would you come with me
even if your life was in danger
on the Murrumbidgee

Sheep are eating dust, farmers pray for a rain
And the scrub gets cleared for another orchard
Redgum is sawn up, firewood's trucked away
And the crows cry their lament
on the Murrumbidgee
would you stick with me
Even though your heart may be breaking
on the Murrumbidgee, would you come with me
I dreamed we could still make it
on the Murrumbidgee

This old river knows
All the stories they still flow
From the mountains all the way to Balranald.
If you stick in the dry on that black soil ground
it'll stick to you in the wet.
On the Murrumbidgee
would you stick with me
even though your heart may be breaking
on the Murrumbidgee would you come with me
I dreamed we could still make it
on the Murrumbidgee.