BOTTOMLESS LAKE
By John Prine

(Guitar Intro: G C C C G G D D D G G G (twice))

G
HERE'S THE STORY OF A MAN AND HIS FAMILY
      D                  G
AND A BIG TRIP THAT THEY TOOK
      G
I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT IN A RESTAURANT
      D
AND I READ IT IN A HISTORY BOOK
      C                   G
THEY RENTED A CAR AT THE ERIE CANAL
      C
BUT THE CAR DIDN'T HAVE NO BRAKE
      G
SAID MA TO PA MY GOD THIS CAR
      D                        G
IS GONNA FALL INTO THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE
(guitar: repeat intro)

WELL MAMA TURNED TO DADDY WITH A PALE FACE

SHE SAID I'VE DONE SOMETHING HORRIBLY WRONG

THE WATER'S STILL RUNNIN' IN THE BATHTUB

AND I THINK I LEFT THE KITCHEN LIGHT ON

THEN I HEARD A CRASH, THE CAR WENT SPLASH

THE COMPASS ROLLED AROUND AND AROUND

OH, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE WE FELL IN A LAKE

AND I THINK WE'RE ALL GONNA DROWN

Chorus
      G      D
WE ARE FALLING DOWN
      G
DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF A HOLE IN THE GROUND
      G
SMOKE 'EM IF YOU GOT 'EM
      C                   G
I'M SO SCARED, I CAN HARDLY BREATHE
      D                         G
I MAY NEVER SEE MY SWEETHEART AGAIN

(guitar: repeat intro)

THERE WAS PLENTY OF FOOD IN THE BACK SEAT

AND THE WINDOWS WERE ROLLED UP TIGHT

SO WE ALL NIBBLED ON A CHICKEN LEG

AND TOLD STORIES WAY THROUGH THE NIGHT
PA TOLD ONE THAT HE TOLD BEFORE
AND THE BABY GOT A BELLYACHE
SAID MA TO PA, MY GOD THIS CAR
IS FALLING DOWN THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE

Chorus

(guitar: repeat intro)

PAPA PLAYED THE MUSIC ON THE RADIO
MAMA ROCKED THE BABY TO SLEEP
HE SAID HE WOULD'VA TAKEN THE OTHER ROAD
BUT HE DIDN'T THINK THE LAKE WAS THAT DEEP
IF THE FERRY'D BEEN THERE AT THE END OF THE PIER
WE'D BE HALF WAY TO UNCLE JAKE'S
INSTEAD OF LOOKIN' AT FISH OUT THE WINDOW, I WISH
WE'D HIT THE BOTTOM OF THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE
(REPEAT) INSTEAD OF LOOKIN' AT FISH OUT THE WINDOW, I WISH
WE'D HIT THE BOTTOM OF THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE

Chorus

(guitar: repeat intro twice)

SO IF YOU'RE EVER GOIN' ON A BIG TRIP
YA BETTER BE CAREFUL OUT THERE
START EVERYTHING ON YOUR GOOD FOOT
WEAR CLEAN UNDERWEAR
TAKE ALONG A BIBLE IN THE BACK SEAT
READ OF DAVID AND OF SOLOMON
COZ IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE IN THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE
YOU MAY NEVER SEE YOUR SWEETHEART AGAIN
IF YOU SHOULD MAKE A MISTAKE IN THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE
YOU MAY NEVER SEE YOUR SWEETHEART AGAIN
(REPEAT) IF YOU SHOULD MAKE A MISTAKE IN THE BOTTOMLESS LAKE
YOU MAY NEVER SEE YOUR SWEETHEARTS AGAIN

THAT'S RIGHT...

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