

**River Man**  
**Nick Drake**

RIVERMAN- Nick Drake

[Verse]

Add9

**Bbm9** Gmadd4

Betty came by on her way

**F#**

Said she had a word to say

**Bbadd9**

Bout things today and the falling leaves

**Bbm9** Gmadd4

Said she hadn t heard the news

**F#**

Hadn t had the time to choose

**Bbadd9**

A way to lose what she believes

[Chorus]

Gonna see the riverman

Gonna tell him all I can

About the plan for my return

If he tells me all he knows

Bout the way his river flows

And all night shows in summertime

[Verse]

Betty said she prayed today

For the sky to blow away

Or maybe stay, she wasn t sure

For when she thought of summer end

Calling for her mind again

She lost the pain, and stayed for more

[Chorus]

Gonna see the riverman

Gonna tell him all I can

About the ban on feeling free

If he tells me all he knows

Bout the way his river flows

I don t suppose there s one for me

Oh how they come and go

Oh how they come and go

	<b>Bbadd9</b>	<b>Bbm9</b>	<b>Gmadd4</b>	<b>F#</b>
E	0	x	x	x
B	2	0	3	1
G	4	5	3	2
D	2	2	5	3
A	0	0	3	3
E	0	0	3	1

PICKING PATTERN (in Aadd9 but repeat for each chord):

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E -----|-----|
B ---2---2-----2---|---2---2-----2---|
G ---4---4-----4---|---4---4-----4---|
D ---2---2-2-----2-2-|---2---2-2-----2-2-|
A ---0---0-----0---|---0---0-----0---|
E -0---0-----0-0-----|0---0-----0-0-----|

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NOTES: Play with capo on the third fret. Of course, no Nick Drake song could be easy to play. This song is in 5/4 time, so there is an extra beat. It is extremely tricky to play correctly as a result. The key to this song is in the timing.

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Version 2

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River man - Nick Drake  
Album - Five leaves left

I have figured out how I can play that song and not what Nick s doing. First of all, I m not so good at playing, and second, I can t hear it exact enough. Of this song I only give the chords because I don t have any feeling how to fingerpick it. Any suggestions welcome.

[Intro:]

**Cm** | **Csus4** | **Cm** | **Csus4** |

[Verse]

**Cm**

Betty came by on her way

**Bb**

Said she has a word to say

**G#**

About things today

**F**

And fallen leaves

Said she hadn t heard the news  
Hadn t had the time to choose

A way to lose  
But she believes

[Chorus]

Going to see the river man  
Going to tell him all I can  
About the plan  
For lilac time

If he tells me all he knows  
About the way his river flows  
And all night shows  
In summertime

[Verse]

Betty said she prayed today  
For the sky to blow away  
Or maybe stay  
She wasn't sure

For when she thought of summer rain  
Calling for her mind again  
She lost the pain  
And stayed for more

[Chorus]

Going to see the river man  
Going to tell him all I can  
About the ban  
On feeling free

If he tells me all he knows  
About the way his river flows  
I don't suppose  
It's meant for me

[Outro:]

Bm and Bsus4 (I know, I'm not very exact at this point but I mostly skip it)

Oh, how they come and go  
Oh, how they come and go

Any comments, suggestions can be mailed to : [bike@hacktic.nl](mailto:bike@hacktic.nl) or posted in  
this newsgroup.