



JoniMitchell.com Transcription for Guitar

River

Author: Sam Stone

A#FA#GA#D, 'Joni' Tuning: x75934

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Arranged for guitar

Note: This is one that I've been sitting on since 2010. It was inspired by Martin Giles' guitar arrangement for "For Free," in which he took a piano song and arranged it for alternate-tuned guitar. I wanted to do the same thing for "River." The result is a very slow, jazzy arrangement very reminiscent of and in the same key as Herbie Hancock's version. Unfortunately, my tabbing skills aren't as good as other submitters' so all I can offer are chord shapes and the YouTube clip.

As always, the fret numbers 10 and above are written with letters such that A=10, B=11 C=12, etc. Also, fret numbers in parentheses should be played with your thumb.

Intro: 000300 > 000301/000301/000301 > 000300 (repeat)

Verse:

000300 > 000301 000300
It's coming on Christmas

000301 000300
They're cutting down trees

000301 000300
They're putting up reindeer

000300>000301>000303 000005 000003 000300
And sing-ing songs of joy and peace

(2)22000
Oh I wish I had a river

x02220
I could skate away on

But it don't snow here
It stays pretty green
I'm going to make a lot of money
Then I'm going to quit this crazy scene
I wish I had a river
I could skate away on

055300 055300 055000 055300 077500
I wish I had a ri - ver so long

x7777x x77500 x9977x 77777 > 777778 > 77777A > 777778 > 777777
I would teach my feet to fly

555555 000000 > 777777 CCCCCC > Intro
Oh I wish I had a river, I could skate away on

x99008 x77007 555005 > 555050 > Intro
I made my baby cry

The rest of the song is just repeats.