

THIS RIVER

by Joyce Johnson Rouse

This River is the lifeblood of a land
This River has a heartbeat and a pulse
As it winds and rolls, as it churns and flows
A mirror of our souls
It is the story of a people
This River is a measure of our love for ourselves and for each other
And I love This River

This River sings to us of future and past
This River is a metaphor of life
From its native clans to its delta fans
The water's common hand
It is the thread that ties all beings
This River: its banks and bends barometers of how we hold its trust
This River doesn't only flow for us
And I love This River.

So damn the dams and free the hindered flow
Let the silver swimmers have their road
A hundred thousand years is nothing to a river
But a river is everything to life

This River holds the wonders and the magic of the world
This River sings the laughter of God
And I love This River