

'Twas early in the spring when I decided to go
Am
G
for to work up in the woods in North Ontar-i-o
C
and the unemployment office said they'd send me through
Am
G
to the Little Abitibi with the survey crew

Am
and the blackflies, the little blackflies
C
Always the blackfly, no matter where you go
Dm
I'll die with the blackfly pickin' my bones
C
G
Am
In North Ontar-i-o-i-o, in North Ontar-i-o

The man Black Toby was the captain of the crew Am G and he said, "I'm gonna tell you boys what we're gonna do. C

They want to build a power dam and we must find a way Am G for to make the Little Ab flow around the other way"

CHORUS

So, we surveyed to the east, surveyed to the west

Am

G

and we couldn't make our minds up how to do it best

C

"Little Ab, Little Ab, what shall I do?

Am

G

for I'm all but goin' crazy on the survey crew"

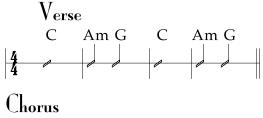
CHÓRUS

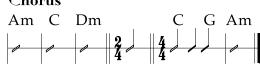
C
'Twas blackfly, blackfly everywhere
Am
G
A-crawlin' in your whiskers, a-crawlin' in your hair
C
Swimmin' in the soup, and swimmin in the tea
Am
G
The Devil take the blackfly, let me be

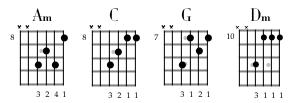


Blackfly Song

Wade Hemsworth











Blackfly Song

Wade Hemsworth

Black Toby fell to swearin', the work went slow

Am G

and the state of our morale was a-gettin' pretty low

C

and the flies swarmed heavy, it was hard to catch a breath

Am G

as you staggered up and down the trail talkin' to yourself



Well now, the bull cook's name was Blind River Joe
Am G
If it hadn't been for him we'd have never pulled through
C
for he bound up our bruises, and he kidded us for fun
Am G
and he lathered us with bacon grease and balsam gum



At last the job was over, Black Toby said "We're through Am G with the Little Abitibi and the survey crew."

'Twas a wonderful experience and this I know

I'll never go again to North Ontar-i-o

