Kern River
Merle Haggard

CHORUS:

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     D                          A
I'll never swim Kern River again.
A
It was there that I met her.
A                                  E      E7
It was there that I lost my best friend.
          D
And now I live in the mountains.
  C#m                         D
I drifted up here with the wind.
          A
And I may drown in still water,
        E                           A
But I'll never swim Kern River again.
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VERSE

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       A
I grew up in an oil town,
       D                    A
But my gusher never came in.
          A
And the river was a boundary
A                                  E    (E7) E9
Where my  darlin' and I used to swim.

A
One night in the moonlight
D                                 A
The swiftness swept here life away.
A
And now I live on Lake Shasta and
A    E                          A
Lake Shasta is where I will stay.
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CHORUS

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A
There's  the South San Joaquin,
          D                                  A
Where the seeds of the dust bowl are found.
A
And there's a place called Mount Whitney
A                                            E   (E7) E9
From where the mighty Kern River comes down.
          A
Well, it's not  deep nor wide,
A          D                           A
But it's a mean piece of water my friend.
A
And I may cross on the highway,
        E                             A
But I'll never swim Kern River again
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CHORUS