They Can't Put It Back
Billy Edd Wheeler

Freely

SOPRANO

Down in the valley, 'bout a mile from me, where the crows no long-

Tenor

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

er cry._

Well, the ground he can eat, it's a sight. He can rip out a hundred tons at a bite._

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Well, the ground he can eat, it's a sight. He can rip out a hundred tons at a bite._

Well, the ground he can eat, it's a fact, but he can't put it back. They come and tell me I got to move. Make way for that big machine.

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Tenor

Down in the valley, 'bout a mile from me, where the crows no long-

BASS

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Soprano

Well, me can eat, there's a great big earth-mov-in' mon-star ma-chine, stands ten sto-ries high.

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Well, me can eat, there's a great big earth-mov-in' mon-star ma-chine, stands ten sto-ries high.
But I ain't a-mov-in' unless they kill me, like they killed the fish in my stream.

Look at that big machine, go Lord, it took that shady grove a long time to grow.

He can rip it out with one whack, but he can't put it back. I never was one to walk in lines, go to meet-in's or carry signs. But maybe I'm behind the times.

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But I ain't a-mov-in' unless they kill me, like they killed the fish in my stream.
ain't a-gon-na take it lay-in' down, 'Cause I'm get-tin' tired of see-in' rocks that bleed on

the bare guts of the ground. And I ain't a-sell-in' my soul so they can strip out

another tiny little vein of coal. I ain't a-mov-in' outta my tracks

'Cause they can't put it back. They can't put it back.