

## **Ruby Friedman and Nick Page "You'll Never Leave Harlan Alive"**

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In the deep dark hills of eastern Kentucky  
That's the place where I traced my bloodline  
And it's there I read on a hillside gravestone  
"You'll never leave Harlan alive"

Oh my grandfather's dad crossed the Cumberland  
Mountains  
Where he took a pretty girl to be his bride  
Said "Won't you walk with me out the mouth of this  
holler  
Or we'll never leave Harlan alive"

Where the sun comes up about ten in the mornin'  
And the sun goes down about three in the day  
And you'll fill your cup with whatever bitter brew you're  
drinkin'  
And you spend your life just thinkin' of how to get away

No one ever knew there was coal in them mountains  
Till a man from the northeast arrived  
Waving hundred dollar bills  
He said "I'll pay you for your minerals"  
He never left Harlan alive

\*instrumental interlude - Banjo solo\*

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