Dirty Water

Words & Music: Ed Cobb

This song is supposedly about 60s-era dorm curfews at Boston University (which lies between Commonwealth Ave. & the Charles River) and the "dirty water" of the Charles. The river's now much cleaner and this is a singalong staple at Fenway (along with - inexplicably - Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline"). You haven't lived 'til you hear 38,000 people sing it as one.

Basic E riff for the song: E A D A/C#

[Intro spoken over the riff:]
I'm gonna tell you a story, I'm gonna tell you about my town.
I'm gonna tell you a big bad story, baby. Aww, it's all about my town.

[Sung]
Yeah, down by the river, down by the banks of the river Charles.

[A riff] [E riff]
That's where you'll find me along with lovers, muggers, and thieves

Chorus:
B Bb A
Well, I love that dirty water!
E A D A
Oh, Boston, you're my home

Frustrated women have to be in by twelve o'clock.
But I'm wishin' and a-hopin', oh, that just once those doors were locked.

Chorus: [2x]

Well, I love that dirty water... [repeat over riff and out]