

The Band Played Waltzing Matilda

The Pogues

G

C

G

When I was a young man I carried my pack

G

D

G

And I lived the free life of a rover

G

D

C

G

From the Murrays green basin to the dusty outback

G

D

G

I waltzed my Matilda all over

D

C

G

Then in nineteen fifteen my country said oeSon,

D

C

G

Itoes time to stop rambling cos thereoes work to be doneoe

G

C

G

So they gave me a tin hat and they gave me a gun

G

D

G

And they sent me away to the war

G

C

G

And the band played Waltzing Matilda

G

C

D

As we sailed away from the quay

C

G

And amidst all the tears and the shouts and the cheers

G

D

G

We sailed off to Gallipoli

G

C

G

How well I remember that terrible day

G

D

G

When the blood stained the sand and the water

G

D

C

G

And when in that town that they called Suvla Bay

G

D

G

We were butchered like lambs at the slaughter

D

C

G

Johnny Turk he was ready, he primed himself well

D

C

G

He chased us with bullets, he rained us with shells

G

C

G

And in five minutes flat heod blown us all to hell

G

D

G

Nearly blew us right back to Australia

G

C

G

And the band played Waltzing Matilda

G

C

D

As we stopped to bury our slain

C

G

And we buried ours and the Turks buried theirs

G

D

G

Then we started all over again

G

C

G

Now those that were living did their best to survive

G

D

G

In a mad world of blood, death and fire,
G D C G
And, for seven long weeks, I kept myself alive
G D G
But the corpses around me piled higher
D C G
Then a big Turkish shell knocked me arse over tit
D C G
And when I awoke in my hospital bed
G C G
I saw what it had done. Christ ! I wished I was dead
G D G
Never knew there were worse things than dying

G C G
For Ioell go no more waltzing Matilda
G C D
All around the green bush far and near
C G
For to hump tent and pegs, a man needs both legs
G D G
No more Waltzing Matilda for me

G C G
So they collected the cripples, the wounded, the maimed,
G D G
And they shipped us back home to Australia
G D C G
The legless, the armless, the blind, the insane,
G D G
Those proud wounded heroes of Suvla
D C G
And as our ship pulled into Circular Bay
D C G
I looked at the place my legs used to be
G C G
And thank Christ there was no one waiting for me
G D G
To grieve and to mourn and to pity

G C G
And the band played Waltzing Matilda
G C D
As they carried us down the gangway
C G
But nobody cheered, they just stood and stared
G D G
Then they turned all their faces away

G C G
And now every April I sit on my porch
G D G
And I watch the parade pass before me
G D C G
I see my old comrades, how proudly they march,
G D G
Renewing old dreams of past glory
D C G
I see the old men march slowly, all bent, stiff and sore
D C G
The forgotten heroes from a forgotten war
G C G

And the young people ask oewhat are they marching for ?oe

G D G

And I ask myself the same question

G C G

And the band played Waltzing Matilda

G C D

And the old men still answer to the call

C G

But year after year their number gets fewer

G D G

Some day no one will march there at all

G C

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda

G D

Who'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me