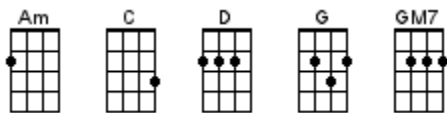


# The Mary Ellen Carter

Stan Rogers 1979



**INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 /**

**[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D] /  
[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D]**

She **[G]** went down last Oc-**[Gmaj7]**tober in a **[C]** pouring **[D]** driving **[G]** rain  
The **[Am]** skipper he'd been drinkin' and the **[C]** mate he felt no **[D]** pain  
Too **[G]** close to Three Mile **[Gmaj7]** Rock and she was **[C]** dealt her mortal **[G]** blow  
And the **[Am]** Mary Ellen Carter settled **[D]** low **[D]**

There was **[G]** just us five a-**[Gmaj7]**board her when she **[C]** finally **[D]** was a-**[G]**wash  
We'd **[Am]** worked like hell to save her, all **[C]** heedless of the **[D]** cost  
And the **[G]** groan she gave as **[Gmaj7]** she went down, it **[C]** caused us to pro-**[G]**claim  
That the **[Am]** Mary Ellen **[D]** Carter would rise a-**[G]**gain / **[Gmaj7] / [C] / [D] /  
[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D]**

Well, the **[G]** owners wrote her **[Gmaj7]** off, not a **[C]** nickel **[D]** would they **[G]** spend  
"She gave **[Am]** twenty years of service, boys, then **[C]** met her sorry **[D]** end  
But in-**[G]**surance paid the **[Gmaj7]** loss to us, so **[C]** let her rest be-**[G]**low"  
Then they **[Am]** laughed at us and said we had to **[D]** go **[D]**

But we **[G]** talked of her all **[Gmaj7]** winter, some **[C]** days a-**[D]**round the **[G]** clock  
She's **[Am]** worth a quarter million, a-**[C]**float and at the **[D]** dock  
And with **[G]** every jar that **[Gmaj7]** hit the bar we **[C]** swore we would re-**[G]**main  
And make the **[Am]** Mary Ellen **[D]** Carter rise a-**[G]**gain **[G]**

Rise a-**[Am]**gain **[D]** rise a-**[G]**gain **[Gmaj7]**  
That her **[C]** name not be lost to the **[G]** knowledge of **[D]** men  
All **[G]** those who loved her **[Gmaj7]** best and were **[C]**↓ with her **[D]**↓ 'til the **[G]** end  
Will make the **[Am]** Mary Ellen **[D]** Carter, rise a-**[G]**gain / **[Gmaj7] / [C] / [D] /  
[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D]**

All **[G]** spring now we've been **[Gmaj7]** with her on a **[C]** barge lent **[D]** by a **[G]** friend  
Three **[Am]** dives a day in a hard-hat suit and **[C]** twice I've had the **[D]** bends  
Thank **[G]** God it's only **[Gmaj7]** sixty feet and the **[C]** currents here are **[G]** slow  
Or I'd **[Am]** never have the strength to go be-**[D]**low **[D]**

But we've **[G]** patched her rents **[Gmaj7]** stopped her vents  
Dogged **[C]** hatch and **[D]** porthole **[G]** down  
Put **[Am]** cables to her, 'fore and aft, and **[C]** girded her a-**[D]**round  
To-**[G]**morrow, noon, we **[Gmaj7]** hit the air and **[C]** then take up the **[G]** strain  
And make the **[Am]** Mary Ellen **[D]** Carter rise a-**[G]**gain **[G]**

Rise a-[Am]gain [D] rise a-[G]gain [Gmaj7]

That her [C] name not be lost to the [G] knowledge of [D] men

All [G] those who loved her [Gmaj7] best and were [C]↓ with her [D]↓ 'til the [G] end

Will make the [Am] Mary Ellen [D] Carter, rise a-[G]gain / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D] /  
[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D]

For we [G] couldn't leave her [Gmaj7] there, you see, to [C] crumble [D] into [G] scale

She'd [Am] saved our lives so many times [C] living through the [D] gale

And the [G] laughing, drunken [Gmaj7] rats who left her [C] to a sorry [G] grave

They [Am] won't be laughing in another [D] day [D]

And [G] you, to whom ad-[Gmaj7]versity has [C] dealt the [D] final [G] blow

With [Am] smiling bastards lying to you [C] everywhere you [D] go

Turn [G] to, and put out [Gmaj7] all your strength of [C] arm and heart and [G] brain

And like the [Am] Mary Ellen [D] Carter, rise a-[G]gain [G]

Rise a-[Am]gain [D] rise a-[G]gain [Gmaj7]

Though your [C] heart, it be broken, and [G] life about to [D] end

No [G] matter what you've [Gmaj7] lost, be it a [C]↓ home, a [D]↓ love, a [G] friend

Like the [Am] Mary Ellen [D] Carter, rise a-[G]gain [G]

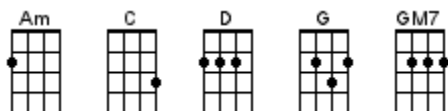
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