# The Mary Ellen Carter

Stan Rogers 1979

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

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G] /**

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G]**

She **[C]** went down last Oc-**[Cmaj7]**tober in a **[F]** pouring **[G]** driving **[C]** rain

The **[Dm]** skipper he’d been drinkin’ and the **[F]** mate he felt no **[G]** pain

Too **[C]** close to Three Mile **[Cmaj7]** Rock and she was **[F]** dealt her mortal **[C]** blow

And the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen Carter settled **[G]** low **[G]**

There was **[C]** just us five a-**[Cmaj7]**board her when she **[F]** finally **[G]** was a-**[C]**wash

We’d **[Dm]** worked like hell to save her, all **[F]** heedless of the **[G]** cost

And the **[C]** groan she gave as **[Cmaj7]** she went down, it **[F]** caused us to pro-**[C]**claim

That the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter would rise a-**[C]**gain **/ [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G] /**

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G]**

Well, the **[C]** owners wrote her **[Cmaj7]** off, not a **[F]** nickel **[G]** would they **[C]** spend

"She gave **[Dm]** twenty years of service, boys, then **[F]** met her sorry **[G]** end

But in-**[C]**surance paid the **[Cmaj7]** loss to us, so **[F]** let her rest be-**[C]**low"

Then they **[Dm]** laughed at us and said we had to **[G]** go **[G]**

But we **[C]** talked of her all **[Cmaj7]** winter, some **[F]** days a-**[G]**round the **[C]** clock

She’s **[Dm]** worth a quarter million, a-**[F]**float and at the **[G]** dock

And with **[C]** every jar that **[Cmaj7]** hit the bar we **[F]** swore we would re-**[C]**main

And make the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter rise a-**[C]**gain **[C]**

Rise a-**[Dm]**gain **[G]** rise a-**[C]**gain **[Cmaj7]**

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

All **[C]** those who loved her **[Cmaj7]** best and were **[F]↓** with her **[G]↓** ‘til the **[C]** end

Will make the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter, rise a-**[C]**gain **/** **[Cmaj7] / [F] / [G] /**

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G]**

All **[C]** spring now we’ve been **[Cmaj7]** with her on a **[F]** barge lent **[G]** by a **[C]** friend

Three **[Dm]** dives a day in a hard-hat suit and **[F]** twice I’ve had the **[G]** bends

Thank **[C]** God it’s only **[Cmaj7]** sixty feet and the **[F]** currents here are **[C]** slow

Or I’d **[Dm]** never have the strength to go be-**[G]**low **[G]**

But we’ve **[C]** patched her rents **[Cmaj7]** stopped her vents

Dogged **[F]** hatch and **[G]** porthole **[C]** down

Put **[Dm]** cables to her, ‘fore and aft, and **[F]** girded her a-**[G]**round

To-**[C]**morrow, noon, we **[Cmaj7]** hit the air and **[F]** then take up the **[C]** strain

And make the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter rise a-**[C]**gain **[C]**

Rise a-**[Dm]**gain **[G]** rise a-**[C]**gain **[Cmaj7]**

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

All **[C]** those who loved her **[Cmaj7]** best and were **[F]↓** with her **[G]↓** ‘til the **[C]** end

Will make the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter, rise a-**[C]**gain **/ [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G] /**

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G]**

For we **[C]** couldn’t leave her **[Cmaj7]** there, you see, to **[F]** crumble **[G]** into **[C]** scale

She’d **[Dm]** saved our lives so many times **[F]** living through the **[G]** gale

And the **[C]** laughing, drunken **[Cmaj7]** rats who left her **[F]** to a sorry **[C]** grave

They **[Dm]** won’t be laughing in another **[G]** day **[G]**

And **[C]** you, to whom ad-**[Cmaj7]**versity has **[F]** dealt the **[G]** final **[C]** blow

With **[Dm]** smiling bastards lying to you **[F]** everywhere you **[G]** go

Turn **[C]** to, and put out **[Cmaj7]** all your strength of **[F]** arm and heart and **[C]** brain

And like the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter, rise a-**[C]**gain **[C]**

Rise a-**[Dm]**gain **[G]** rise a-**[C]**gain **[Cmaj7]**

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

No **[C]** matter what you’ve **[Cmaj7]** lost, be it a **[F]↓** home, a **[G]↓** love, a **[C]** friend

Like the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter, rise a-**[C]**gain **[C]**

Rise a-**[Dm]**gain **[G]** rise a-**[C]**gain **[Cmaj7]**

Though your **[F]** heart, it be broken, or **[C]** life about to **[G]** end

No **[C]** matter what you’ve **[Cmaj7]** lost, be it a **[F]↓** home, a **[G]↓** love, a **[C]** friend

Like the **[Dm]** Mary Ellen **[G]** Carter, rise a-**[C]**gain **/ [Cmaj7] / [F] / [G] /**

**[C] / [Cmaj7] / [F]↓ [G]↓ / [C]↓**

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