# The Mary Ellen Carter

Stan Rogers 1979

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**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]**

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

Though your **[C]** heart, it be broken, or **[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 **/ [Gmaj7] / [C] / [D] /**

**[G] / [Gmaj7] / [C]↓ [D]↓ / [G]↓**

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