

Diamantina Drover

Hugh McDonald

C G Am
The faces in the photograph have faded
Am C F
And I can't believe he looks so much like me
Am Em
For it's been ten years today
Dm Am
Since I left for Old Cork Station
Dm F G Am
Sayin' I won't be back till the drovin's done

F C G Am
For the rain never falls on the dusty Diamantina
Am C F G
And a drover finds it hard to change his mind
Am n Em
For the years have surely gone
F Am
Like the drays from Old Cork Station
Dm F G Am
And I won't be back till the drovin's done

C G n Am
Well it seems like the sun comes up each mornin'
Am C F
Sets me up and takes it all away
Am Em
For the dreaming by the light
Dm Am
Of the camp fire at night
Dm F G Am
Ends with the burning by the day

Chorus

C G Am
Sometimes I think I'll settle back in Sydney
Am C F
But it's been so long it's hard to change my mind
Am Em
For the cattle trail goes on and on
Dm Am
And the fences roll forever
Dm F G Am
And I won't be back till the drovin's done Chorus

Flash Jack From Gundagai

C Am G7 C
I've shore at Burrabogie and I've shore at Toganmain
C Am F G7
I've shore at Big Willandra and out on the Coleraine
C F C Am
But before the shearing was over I longed to get back again
C Am G7 C
Shearing for old Tom Patterson on the One Tree Plain

C Am G7 C
All among the wool boys all among the wool
C Am F G7
Keep your blades full boys keep your blades full
C F C Am
I can do a respectable tally myself whenever I likes to try
C Am G7 C
And they know me round the backblocks as Flash Jack from Gundagai

C Am G7 C
I've shore at Big Willandra and I've shore at Tilberoo
C Am F G7
And once I drew my blades boys upon the famed Barcoo
C F C Am
At Cowan Downs and Trida as far as Moulamein
C Am G7 C
But I was always glad to get back again to the One Tree Plain

C Am G7 C
I've pinked them with the Wolseleys and I've rushed with B-bows too
C Am F G7
And shaved them in the grease boys with the grass seeds showing through
C F C Am
But I never slummed a pen my lads whatever it might contain
C Am G7 C
When shearing for old Tom Patterson on the One Tree Plain

C Am G7 C
I've been whaling up the Lachlan and I've dossed on Cooper's Creek
C Am F G7
And once I rung Cudjingie shed and blued it in a week
C F C Am
But when Gabriel blows his trumpet lads I'll catch the morning train
C Am G7 C
And push for Old Tom Patterson's on the One Tree Plain

Lazy Harry's

G
Oh we started out from Roto when the sheds had all cut out
C G A7 D7
And with whips and whips of Rhino as we meant to push about
C G C G
With a three-spot cheque between us and Sydney in our eye
G D7 G
But we camped at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

G
But we camped at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai
G A7 D7
The road to Gundagai, not five miles from Gundagai
G C G D7 G
Yes we camped at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

G
Well we crossed the Murrumbidgee near old Yanko in a week
C G A7 D7
And passed through old Narrandera and crossed the Burnett Creek
C G C G
And we never stopped at Wagga for we'd Sydney in our eye
G D7 G
But we camped at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

G
Well we threw our flamin' swags off and we marched into the bar
C G A7 D7
We ordered rum and raspberry and a shilling each cigar
C G C G
And the girl that served the poison she winked at me so sly
G D7 G
So we camped at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

G
Oh I've seen a lot of girls, my boys, and I've drunk lots of beer
C G A7 D7
And I've met with some of both, me lads, that have left me feeling queer
C G C G
But for beer to knock you sideways and girls to make you sigh
G D7 G
You should camp at Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

G
In a week the spree was over and the cheque was all knocked down
C G A7 D7
So we shouldered our Matildas and we headed out of town
C G C G
And the girls they stood a nobbler, as we sadly said goodbye
G D7 G
And we tramped from Lazy Harry's on the road Gundagai

Last Chorus

And we tramped from Lazy Harry's on the road to Gundagai

Moonshadow

Cat Stevens

Chorus

Oh, I'm bein' followed by a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow
Leapin and hoppin' on a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow

Verse 1

And if I ever lose my hands, lose my plough, lose my land,
Oh if I ever lose my hands, Oh if I won't have to work no more.

Verse 2

And if I ever lose my eyes, if my colours all run dry,
Yes if I ever lose my eyes, Oh if----- I won't have to cry no more.

Chorus

Oh, I'm bein' followed by a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow
Leapin and hoppin' on a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow

Verse 3

And if I ever lose my legs, I won't moan, and I won't beg,
Yes if I ever lose my legs, Oh if----- I won't have to walk no more.

Verse 4

And if I ever lose my mouth, all my teeth, north and south,
Yes if I ever lose my mouth, Oh if----- I won't have to talk

Verse 5

Did it take long to find me? I asked the faithful light.
Did it take long to find me? And are you gonna stay the night?

Chorus

Oh, I'm bein' followed by a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow
Leapin and hoppin' on a moonshadow, moonshadow, moonshadow

Poor Ned

Redgum

Verse One

C G F C
Eighteen-hundred and 78 was the year I remember so well
C G F C
They put my father in an early grave and slung my mother in gaol
C G
Now I don't know what's right or wrong
F C
But they hung Christ on nails
C G
Six kids at home and two still on the breast
F C
They wouldn't even give us bail

Chorus

C G
Poor Ned, you're better off dead
F C
At least you'll get some peace of mind
C
You're out on the track
G
They're right on your back
F F
Boy they're gonna hang you high

Verse Two

You know I wrote a letter 'bout Stringy-Bark Creek
so they would understand
That I might be a bushranger, but I'm not a murdering man
I didn't want to shoot Kennedy or that copper Lonigan
He alone could have saved his life by throwing down his gun

Chorus

Verse Three

You know they took Ned Kelly and they hung him in the Melbourne gaol
He fought so very bravely dressed in iron mail
And no man single handed can hope to break the bars
There's a thousand like Ned Kelly who'll hoist the flag of stars

Chorus

San Francisco Bay Blues

Jesse Fuller

I got the blues when my baby left me down by the Frisco Bay
Well an ocean liner came and took her away
I didn't mean to treat her bad, she was the best girl I ever had
She made me laugh, she made me cry
She made me wanna lay down my head and die

Well I ain't got a nickel and I ain't got a lousy dime
And if she don't come back, Lord I'm gonna lose my mind
If she ever comes back to stay, it's gonna be just another brand new day
Walkin' with my baby down by the San Francisco Bay

Well I'm sittin' here on my backside, wondering which way to go
Woman that I'm so crazy about she don't love me no more
Think I'll take a freight train, cause I'm feelin' blue
Gonna ride it to the end of the line, thinking only of you

Well I ain't got a nickel and I ain't got a lousy dime
And if she don't come back, Lord I'm gonna lose my mind
If she ever comes back to stay, it's gonna be just another brand new day
Walkin' with my baby down by the San Francisco Bay
Walkin' with my baby down by the San Francisco Bay
Walkin' with my baby down by the Frisco Bay

Shores Of Botany Bay

Verse One

G7 C Am F C
I'm on me way down to the quay, where the big ship now doth lay
C Am D7 G7
To command gang of navvies, I was ordered to engage
C Am F G
And I thought I would stop in for a while, before I sailed away
Am E7 Am G7
To take a trip on an immigrant ship to the shores of Botany Bay

Chorus

C Am F C
Farewell to your bricks and mortar, farewell to your dirty lime
C Am D7 G7
Farewell to your gangway and your gang plank, and to hell with your overtime
C Am F G
For the good ship Ragamuffin, she's lying at the quay
Am E7 Am G7
For to take old Pat with a shovel on his back to the shores of Botany Bay

Verse Two

The best years of our life we spend, at working on the docks
Building mighty wharves and quays, of earth and ballast rocks
Our pensions keep our jobs secure, but I I'll not rue the day
When I take a trip on an immigrant ship to the shores of Botany Bay

Chorus

Verse Three

Well the boss came up this morning, and he said "Why Pat, hello
If you don't mix the mortar quick, be sure you'll have to go"
Well of course he did insult me, I demanded all my pay
And I told him straight I was going to emigrate to the shores of Botany Bay

Chorus

Verse Four

And when I reach Australia, I'll go in search for gold
There's plenty there for digging up, or so I have been told
Or maybe I'll go back to my trade, eight hundred bricks I'll lay
For an eight hour shift and an eight bob pay on the shores of Botany Bay

Chorus

Sittin' On The Dock Of The Bay

Otis Redding 1968 (Steve Cropper)

G B7
Sittin' in the mornin' sun
C A
I'll be sittin' when the evenin' comes
G B7
Watching the ships roll in
C A
And then I watch 'em roll away again, yeah

G E
I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay
G E
Watching the tide roll away
G A
Ooo, I'm just sittin' on the dock of the bay
G E
Wastin' time

G B7
I left my home in Georgia
C A
Headed for the 'Frisco Bay
G B7
'Cause I've had nothing to live for
C A
And look like nothin's gonna come my way **Chorus**

G D C G
Looks like, nothing's gonna change
G D C G
Everything still remains the same
G D C G
I can't do what ten people tell me to do
F D
So I guess I'll remain the same

G B7
Sittin' here resting my bones
C A
And this loneliness won't leave me alone
G B7
It's two thousand miles I roamed
C A
Just to make this dock my home **Chorus**

The Last Thing On My Mind

Tom Paxton

Capo on 2 (Key of A)

 G C G G
It's a lesson too late for the learnin',
C G D G
made of sand, made of sand
 G C G G
In the wink of an eye my soul is turnin',
C G D G
in your hand, in your hand.

Chorus

 D D C G
Are you going away with no word of farewell,
 C G D D7
will there be not a trace left behind?
 C C
Well, I could have loved you better,
 G G
didn't mean to be unkind;
 D D7 G
you know that was the last thing on my mind.

Verse Two

You've got reasons a-plenty for goin',
this I know, this I know.
For the weeds have been steadily growin',
please don't go, please don't go.

Chorus

Verse Three

As we walk on, my thoughts keep tumblin',
round and round, round and round
Underneath our feet the subways rumblin',
underground, underground

Chorus

Verse Four

As I lie in my bed in the mornin',
without you, without you.
Every song in my breast lies a bornin',
without you, without you

The Overlander

First published in The Queenslander, 28 July 1894.

Am C G Am
There's a trade you all know well, it's bringing the cattle over
Am C G Am
Now listen while I tell to you how I became a drover
C G C G
I wanted stock for Queensland, to Kempsey I did wander
Am C G Am
Bought a thousand cattle there and then turned overlander

C G C G
Pass the bottle round boys, and don't you leave it stand there
Am C G Am
For tonight we'll drink the health of every overlander

Verse 2

When the cattle were counted and the outfit ready to start
I saw the boys all mounted with their swags thrown in the cart
All kinds of men I had too from France and Spain and Flanders
Lawyers, doctors, good and bad, in the mob of overlanders

Verse 3

From the track I then spread out where the grass was green and young
When a squatter with a curse and shout told me to move along
I said, 'Come draw it mild man and don't you raise my dander
For I'm a regular knowin' card, a Queensland overlander'

Verse 4

We move the cattle fifty miles and make camp for the day
We talk about the rich folk's life and true loves far away
Our tucker isn't fancy, beef and tea and damper
But wash it down with Queensland rum, it suits the overlander

Verse 5

Our clothes are getting dirtier and throats they choke with dust
We set our tired horses free and in the dogs we trust
We gaze into the shimmering haze and dream of places grander
But, come what may, we know we'll stay the Queensland overlander

Verse 6

I would scorn to prig a shirt that all my mates can say
But if we pass a township upon a washing day
The dirty brats of kids would shout and quickly raise my dander
Crying, 'Mother dear, take in your clothes, here comes the overlander'

Verse 7

In town we dress ourselves up and we go and see a play
We never think of being hard up or how to spend a day
We steer up to them pretty girls that dress themselves in grandeur
And while they sweat our cheques, they swear they love the overlander

Will The Circle Be Unbroken

As sung by The Carter Family

C C7 F C
I was standing by my window on a cold and cloudy day
Am C G7 C
When I saw the hearse come rolling for to carry my mother away

C C7
Will the circle be unbroken?
F C
By and by Lord, by and by
Am
There's a better home a-waiting
C G7 C
In the sky Lord, in the sky

C C7 F C
Undertaker, undertaker won't you please drive slow
Am C G7 C
For this lady you are carrying, Lord, I hate to see here go

C C7 F C
Oh, I followed close behind her, tried to hold up and be brave
Am C G7 C
But I could not hide my sorrow when they laid her in the grave

C C7 F C
I went back home, my home was lonesome, missed my mother, she was gone
Am C G7 C
All of my brothers, sisters crying, what a home so sad and lone

C C7 F C
We sang the songs of childhood, hymns of faith that made us strong
Am C G7 C
Ones that mother Maybelle taught us, hear the angels sing along