

Back Home In Derry

Christy Moore

[Verse 1]

Am **C**
In eighteen-o-three we sailed out to sea
G **D** **Am**
Out from the sweet town of Derry
Am **C**
For Australia bound, if we didn't all drown
G **D** **Am**
The marks of our fetters we carried

D **C**
In our rusty iron chains we cried for our weans
D **Em**
Our good women we left in sorrow
Am **C**
As the main sails unfurled, our curses we hurled
G **D** **Am**
On the English and thoughts of tomorrow

[Verse 2]

Am **C**
At the mouth of the Foyle, bade farewell to the soil
G **D** **Am**
As down below decks we were lying
Am **C**
O Doherty screamed, woken out of a dream
G **D** **Am**
By a vision of bold Robert dying

D **C**
The sun burnt cruel as we dished out the gruel
D **Em**
Dan O Conner was down with a fever
Am **C**
Sixty rebels today, bound for Botany Bay
G **D** **Am**
How many will reach their receiver

[Chorus]

C **G** **Am** **G** **Am**
Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry
C **G** **Am** **G** **Am**

Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry

[Verse 3]

(same as verse 1)

I cursed them to hell as our bow fought the swell
Our ship danced like a moth in the firelight
White horses rode high as the devil passed by
Taking souls to Hades by twilight

Five weeks out to sea, we were now forty-three
We buried our comrades each morning
In our own slime we were lost in the time
Endless night without dawning

[Chorus]

Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry
Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry

[Verse 4]

(same as verse 1)

Van Diemen s Land is a hell for a man
To end out his whole life in slavery
Where the climate is raw and a gun makes the law
Neither wind nor rain care for bravery

Twenty years have gone by, I have ended my bond
My comrades ghosts walk beside me
A rebel I came, I m still the same
On the cold winds of night you will find me

[Chorus]

Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry
Oh oh oh oh oh I wish I was back home in Derry