

The Retreat
Elton John

verse 1

G **D/E** **C/D** **G**
They laid beneath the pine trees with their caps over their eyes

C **G** **A** **D**
They were drunk with home and mama as they brushed away the flies

G **D/E** **C** **G**
In an instant before the sunrise they had gunned the rebels down

C **G** **D** **G**
As their flags were torn at half mast in the ruins of the town

verse 2

G **D/E** **C/D** **G**
There were white sails on the water for the crippled on the beach

C **G** **A** **D**
There was a lack of ammunition so the cause was incomplete

G **D/E** **C** **G**
When the bugle blew at breakfast and they knew their ships were in

C **G** **D** **G**
Signs of grand assurance were carried on the wind

G **D/E** **Em** **G/C** **C** **G**
Take it home, take it low, take responsibilities

Am **D** **C** **D**
Came the message from the front

G **D/E** **Em** **G/C** **C** **D/A**
For the captains, captains quarters must retreat

Am7 **D** **C** **G**
Pack the compass, pack the tents, take the bunks

verse 3

G **D/E** **C** **G/C**
They just chalked it down in history but they kept their uniforms

C **G** **A** **D**

They put their medals on the sideboards and they went back to their farms

G D/E C G
For it was just a mere reminder that they stood beside the best

C G D G
That God had saved the chosen few and the devil took the rest

G D/E Em G/C C G
Take it home, take it low, take responsibilities

Am D C D
Came the message from the front

G D/E Em G/C C D/A
For the captains, captains quarters must retreat

Am7 D C G
Pack the compass, pack the tents, take the bunks

verse 4

G D/E C/D G
On the planes above the rock face where the sculptured eagles swoop

C G A D
There s a haunted yell for action among the spectres of his troops

G D/E C G
It was silent on the coastline as the crazy angels danced

C G D G
With the sound of retreating footfall from his military camp

G D/E Em G/C C G
Take it home, take it low, take responsibilities

Am D C D
Came the message from the front

G D/E Em G/C C D/A
For the captains, captains quarters must retreat

Am7 D C G
Pack the compass, pack the tents, take the bunks