

No Mans Land
Eric Bogle

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NO MAN S LAND Time: 3/4 Tenor: G Bass: D
- AKA: The Green Fields Of France
- Eric Bogle, 1975, Record: Now I m Easy
- Record: Peter, Paul & Mary Flowers and Stones
- Record: The Clancy Brothers, Live With Robbie O Connell
- Source: Eric Bogle Songbook, page 32, Key: G
- Source: New Folk Favorites, page 68, Key: G

G# * **C#** **Bbm**
Well, how do you do, Private William Mc-Bride
Eb * **G#** **Eb**
Do you mind if I sit here, down by your grave-side
G# * **C#** *
And I ll rest for a while in the warm summer sun
Eb * **C#** **G#** (*)
I ve been walking all day; Lord, and I m nearly done
* * **Bbm** *
And I see by your gravestone, you were only nine-teen
Eb7 * **G#** **Eb**
When you joined the glorious fallen in nineteen six-teen
G# * **Bbm** *
Well I hope you died quick and I hope you died clean
Eb * **C#** **G#**
Or Willie Mc-Bride, was it slow and ob-scene

CHORUS:

Eb * **C#** **G#**
Did they beat the drum slowly, did they sound the fife lowly
Eb * **C#** **G#**
Did the rifles fire o er you as they lowered you down
C# * **Eb** *
Did the bugles play The Last Post in chorus
G# **C#** **Eb** **G#**
Did the pipes play The Flowers Of The For-est

G# * **C#** **Bbm**
 And did you leave a wife or a sweetheart be-hind
Eb * **G#** **Eb**
 In some faithful heart is your memory en-shrined
G# * **C#** *
 And though you died back in nineteen-six-teen
Eb * **C#** **G#** (*)
 To that loyal heart are you always nine-teen
 * * **Bbm** *
 Or are you a stranger without even a name
Eb7 * **G#** **Eb**
 Enshrined for-ever be-hind a glass pane
G# * **Bbm** *
 In an old photo-graph, torn and tattered and stained
Eb * **C#** **G#**
 And fading to yellow in a brown leather frame

NO MAN S LAND (page 2)

G# * **C#** **Bbm**
 The sun s shining now on these green fields of France
Eb * **G#** **Eb**
 The warm wind blows gently and the red poppies dance
G# * **C#** *
 The trenches have vanished, long under the plough
Eb * **C#** **G#** (*)
 No gas and no barbed-wire, no guns firing now
 * * **Bbm** *
 But here in this graveyard, it s still No Man s Land
Eb7 * **G#** **Eb**
 The countless white crosses in mute witness stand
G# * **Bbm** *
 To man s blind in-difference to his fellow man
Eb * **C#** **G#**
 To a whole gener-ation who were butchered and damned

G# * **C#** **Bbm**
 And I can t help but wonder now, Willie Mc-Bride
Eb * **G#** **Eb**
 Do all those who lie here know why they died
G# * **C#** *
 Did you really be-lieve them when they told you the cause
Eb * **C#** **G#** (*)
 Did you really be-lieve that this war would end wars
 * * **Bbm** *
 Well the suffering, the sorrow, the glory, the shame
Eb7 * **G#** **Eb**
 The killing, the dying, it was all done in vain
G# * **Bbm** *
 For Willie Mc-Bride, it s all happened a-gain

E♭ ***** **C♯** **G♯**
And **B♭**-gain and **B♭**-gain and **B♭**-gain and **B♭**-gain

ENDING: CHORUS, THEN REPEAT THE LAST TWO LINES OF THE CHORUS

NOTES:

- Asterisk (*) = new bar, no chord change
- Period (.) = eighth-note rest
- Initial underline (_) = half-note rest
- Terminal underlines (_)= note sustained into the next bar

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- Make a Joyful Noise!