

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

**A** \* **D** **Bm**  
 Well, how do you do, Private William Mc-Bride  
**E** \* **A** **E**  
 Do you mind if I sit here, down by your grave-side  
**A** \* **D** \*  
 And I ll rest for a while in the warm summer sun  
**E** \* **D** **A** (\*)  
 I ve been walking all day; Lord, and I m nearly done  
 \* \* **Bm** \*  
 And I see by your gravestone, you were only nine-teen  
**E7** \* **A** **E**  
 When you joined the glorious fallen in nineteen six-teen  
**A** \* **Bm** \*  
 Well I hope you died quick and I hope you died clean  
**E** \* **D** **A**  
 Or Willie Mc-Bride, was it slow and ob-scene

CHORUS:

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

**A**                   \*                   **D**                   **Bm**  
 And did you leave a wife or a sweetheart be-hind  
**E**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 In some faithful heart is your memory en-shrined  
**A**                   \*                   **D**                   \*  
 And though you died back in nineteen-six-teen  
**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**                   (\*)  
 To that loyal heart are you always nine-teen  
 \*                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 Or are you a stranger without even a name  
**E7**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 Enshrined for-ever be-hind a glass pane  
**A**                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 In an old photo-graph, torn and tattered and stained  
**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**  
 And fading to yellow in a brown leather frame

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 NO MAN S LAND (page 2)

**A**                   \*                   **D**                   **Bm**  
 The sun s shining now on these green fields of France  
**E**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 The warm wind blows gently and the red poppies dance  
**A**                   \*                   **D**                   \*  
 The trenches have vanished, long under the plough  
**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**                   (\*)  
 No gas and no barbed-wire, no guns firing now  
 \*                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 But here in this graveyard, it s still No Man s Land  
**E7**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 The countless white crosses in mute witness stand  
**A**                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 To man s blind in-difference to his fellow man  
**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**  
 To a whole gener-ation who were butchered and damned

**A**                   \*                   **D**                   **Bm**  
 And I can t help but wonder now, Willie Mc-Bride  
**E**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 Do all those who lie here know why they died  
**A**                   \*                   **D**                   \*  
 Did you really be-lieve them when they told you the cause  
**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**                   (\*)  
 Did you really be-lieve that this war would end wars  
 \*                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 Well the suffering, the sorrow, the glory, the shame  
**E7**                   \*                   **A**                   **E**  
 The killing, the dying, it was all done in vain  
**A**                   \*                   **Bm**                   \*  
 For Willie Mc-Bride, it s all happened a-gain

**E**                   \*                   **D**                   **A**  
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!