

**The Big Battle**  
**Johnny Cash**

Intro:

| **A** | **A** | **A** | **A** |

**A**

I think, sir, the battle is over;

**E7**

And the young soldier lay down his gun.

I m tired of running for cover;

**A**

I m certain the battle is done.

**D**

**A**

O er sea over there where we fought them

**E7**

**A**

It s quiet, for they ve all gone away.

All left is the dead and the dyin ,

**E7**

**A**

the blue lyin long side the grave.

Interlude:

| **G** | **G** | **G** | **G** |

**G**

So, you think the battle is over,

**D7**

and you even lay down your gun.

You carelessly rise from your cover,

**G**

for you think the battle is done.

**C**

**G**

Now, boy, hit the dirt, listen to me,

**D7**

**G**

**D7**

for I m still the one in command.

**G**

Get flat on the ground here beside me

**D7**

**G**

and lay your ear to the sand.

Interlude

| **A** | **A** | **A** | **A** |

**A**

Can you here the deafening rumble?

**E7**

Can you feel the trembling ground?

It s just the horses and wagons

**A**

that make such deafening sound.

**D**

**A**

For ev ry shot fired had an echo

**E7**

**A**

**E7**

and ev ry man killed wanted life.

**A**

There lies your friend, Jim McKinney.

**E7**

**A**

Can you take the news to his wife?

Interlude

| **G** | **G** | **G** | **G** |

**G**

No, son, the battle s not over;

**D7**

the battle has only begun.

The rest of the battle will cover

**G**

the part that has blackened the sun.

**C**

**G**

The fight yet to come s not with cannons,

**D7**

**G**

**D7**

Nor will the fight be hand to hand.

**G**

No one will regroup the forces;

**D7**

**G**

No charge will a gen ral command.

Interlude

| **A** | **A** | **A** | **A** |

**A**

The battle will rage in the bosom

**E7**

of mother and sweetheart and wife.

Brother and sister and daughter

**A**

will grieve for the rest of their lives.

**D**

**A**

Now, quiet, rise from your cover.

**E7**

**A**

**E7**

Be thankful that God let you live,

**A**

to go fight the rest of the battle

**E7**

for those who gave all they could give.

**A**

Interlude

| **G** | **G** | **G** | **G** |

**G**

I see, sir, the battle s not over;

**D7**

the battle has only begun.

The rest of the battle will cover

**G**

this part that has blackened the sun.

**C**

For though there s no sound of the cannon,

**D7**

and though there s no smoke in the sky,

**G**

I m droppin my gun and the saber,

**D**

**G**

and ready for battle am I.

**G**

**G**

**D7**

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