

Picaresqueties
The Decemberists

1. The Bandit Queen
2. Bridges and Balloons
3. Constantinople
4. The Kingdom of Spain

1. The Bandit Queen

Originally tabbed by: Unregistered

VERSE 1

C **C7**
As the Sun is sinking low,
F **Fm**
And the evening s tucked in tow,
C **Am** **G** **G7**
On the horizon, my true love I see-e-e-e-eee.
C **C7**
She ain t fancy, she ain t fine
F **Fm**
While her fingers number only nine
C **Am** **F** **G**
She s the belle of the ball of the insurgency.

CHORUS

C **Am**
She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon
F **G**
In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two
C **Am**
If I could find a way to your hideaway by the sea
F **G7** **C**
O Bandit Queen, steal away to me.

BRIDGE

Am
Somewhere on a mountain, by a starry water fountain
C **C/B**
In an alcove hid by some trees
Am
Amidst a pile of treasure, reclining at her leisure,
F **G**
My ladylove sniffs at the breeze.
F
And sitting up, she adjusts her turban

C

And takes another swig from a bottle of bourbon

D7

G

And listening to the whistling of the train in station

N.C

Odds are it will never reach its destination.

C

Am

Cause the Bandit Queen, astride her steed will ride

F

G

C

Oh, let me be the one to lay within your theivin arms tonight.

CHORUS

C

Am

She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon

F

G

In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two

C

Am

If I could find a way to your hideaway by the sea

F

G7

C

O Bandit Queen, steal away to me.

2. Bridges and Balloons

CAPO 4

VERSE 1

G

We sailed away on a winter s day

Cadd9

With fate as malleable as clay

G

But ships are fallible, I say

Cadd9

And the nautical, like all things, fades

G

And I can recall our caravel

Cadd9

A little wicker beetle shell

G

With four fine maste and lateen sails

Cadd9

Its bearings on Cair Paravel

CHORUS

Am Cadd9

Oh my love

G

Oh it was a funny little thing

Am

To be

C

The ones

G

To ve seen

VERSE 2

G

The sight of bridges and balloons

Cadd9

Makes calm canaries irritable

G

And they caw and claw all afternoon

Cadd9

Catenaries and dirigibles

G

Brace and buoy the living room

Cadd9

A loom of metal warp woof wimble

G

And a thimbleâ€™s worth of milky moon

Cadd9

Can touch hearts larger than a thimble

CHORUS

Am Cadd9

Oh my love

G

Oh it was a funny little thing

Am

To be

C

The ones

G

To ve seen

OUTRO

Am Cadd9

Oh my love

G

It was a funny little thing

Am C G

Oh it was a funny funny funny little thing

Cadd9 G Cadd9 G Cadd9 G

3. Constantinople

Originally tabbed by: aflowerandagun

INTRO: **C C/B**

VERSE 1

C C/G C C/G

O the minarets of Constantinople

Am Am/E Am Am/E

Are plated gold, ivory, and opal

F F/C F F/C G G G G

Their cupolas all onion domed and light.

VERSE 2

C C/G C C/G

And the magistrate of Constantinople

Am Am/E Am Am/E

Has made a match; his family was hopeful

F F/C F F/C G G G G

Their daughter would be promised a wedding night.

CHORUS

F G

But the Sultan's weary bride, she won't be wed tonight

C C/B C/A C/G Am Am/E Am Am/E

Nor fall beneath a canopy to lie

F F/C F F/C G G G G

For far across the town, her lover now is drowned

C C/B C/A C/G Am Am/E Am Am/E

And painted by the Bosphorus in blue

F F/C F F/C G G G G

And there's nothing for a broken heart to do.

VERSE 3

C C/G C C/G

Down the dirty streets of Constantinople

Am Am/E Am Am/E

The beggars weep, their hands all wide open

F F/C F F/C G G G G

Their severed leper limbs all swing and sway.

VERSE 4

C C/G C C/G

At a windowsill in Constantinople

Am Am/E Am Am/E

Our Hero sighs to melodies noteful

F F/C F F/C G G G G

And gazes on the walls that hold his love.

CHORUS

F G

But the Sultan s weary bride, she won t be wed tonight

C C/B C/A C/G Am Am/E Am Am/E

Nor fall beneath a canopy to lie

F F/C F F/C G G G G

For far across the town, her lover now is drowned

C C/B C/A C/G Am Am/E Am Am/E

And painted by the Bosphorus in blue

F F/C F F/C G G G G

And there s nothing for a broken heart to do.

OUTRO

F F/C F F/C G G G G

No, there s nothing for a broken heart to do.

C C/B C/A C/G Am Am/E Am Am/E F F/C F F/C G G G G

Except cry.

G G G7 C

4. The Kingdom of Spain

Originally tabbed by: Unregistered

G G C D G

VERSE 1

C

In the Kingdom of Spain

D

G Em

There are such colors

C

They defy any name

D

G

Em

Like drab and dolor

CHORUS

C

D

But oh the King and the Queen of Spain

G

Em

With their long unpronounceable names

C

D

Em

D

Grace the table at the long lost Kingdom of Spain

VERSE 2

C

In the Kingdom of Light

D G Em

A lithe young lawyer

C

Tries a case for

D G Em

Her unjustly arrested brother

CHORUS

C D

But oh the King and the Queen of Light

G Em

Rule with unbendable might

C D

Em D

So it s to the gallows with the long lost Kingdom of Light

BRIDGE

G G C D G

VERSE 3

C

In the Kingdom of Love

D G Em

Oh, we re all just fodder

C

As the cannonades drub

D G Em

Our sons and daughters

CHORUS

C D

But oh the King and the Queen of Love

G Em

In their long white fingerless gloves

C D

Em D

Bang the gavel for the long lost Kingdom of Love

OUTRO

D Em

Of love

D Em

Of love

D