

**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 thimble'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

But oh the King and the Queen of Light

**G Em**

Rule with unbendable might

**C D**

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

**Em D**

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

But oh the King and the Queen of Love

**G Em**

In their long white fingerless gloves

**C D**

Bang the gavel for the long lost Kingdom of Love

**Em D**

OUTRO

**D Em**

Of love

**D Em**

Of love

**D**