

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# **C#7**
As the Sun is sinking low,
F# **F#m**
And the evening s tucked in tow,
C# **Bbm** **G#** **G#7**
On the horizon, my true love I see-e-e-e-eee.
C# **C#7**
She ain t fancy, she ain t fine
F# **F#m**
While her fingers number only nine
C# **Bbm** **F#** **G#**
She s the belle of the ball of the insurgency.

CHORUS

C# **Bbm**
She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon
F# **G#**
In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two
C# **Bbm**
If I could find a way to your hideaway by the sea
F# **G#7** **C#**
O Bandit Queen, steal away to me.

BRIDGE

Bbm
Somewhere on a mountain, by a starry water fountain
C# **C#/B**
In an alcove hid by some trees
Bbm
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

Eb7

G#

And listening to the whistling of the train in station

N.C#

Odds are it will never reach its destination.

C#

Bbm

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#

Bbm

She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon

F#

G#

In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two

C#

Bbm

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

F#

G#7

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

C#add9

With fate as malleable as clay

G#

But ships are fallible, I say

C#add9

And the nautical, like all things, fades

G#

And I can recall our caravel

C#add9

A little wicker beetle shell

G#

With four fine maste and lateen sails

C#add9

Its bearings on Cair Paravel

CHORUS

Bbm C#add9

Oh my love

G#

Oh it was a funny little thing

Bbm

To be

C#

The ones

G#

To ve seen

VERSE 2

G#

The sight of bridges and balloons

C#add9

Makes calm canaries irritable

G#

And they caw and claw all afternoon

C#add9

Catenaries and dirigibles

G#

Brace and buoy the living room

C#add9

A loom of metal warp woof wimble

G#

And a thimble's worth of milky moon

C#add9

Can touch hearts larger than a thimble

CHORUS

Bbm C#add9

Oh my love

G#

Oh it was a funny little thing

Bbm

To be

C#

The ones

G#

To ve seen

OUTRO

Bbm C#add9

Oh my love

G#

It was a funny little thing

Bbm C# G#

Oh it was a funny funny funny little thing

C#add9 G# C#add9 G# C#add9 G#

3. Constantinople

Originally tabbed by: aflowerandagun

INTRO: **C# C#/B**

VERSE 1

C# C#/G C# C#/G

O the minarets of Constantinople

Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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

Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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 Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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 Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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

Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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

Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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 Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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 Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/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 Bbm Bbm/E Bbm Bbm/E F# F#/C F# F#/C G# G# G# G#

Except cry.

G# G# G#7 C#

4. The Kingdom of Spain

Originally tabbed by: Unregistered

G# G# C# Eb G#

VERSE 1

C#

In the Kingdom of Spain

Eb

G# Fm

There are such colors

C#

They defy any name

Eb

G#

Fm

Like drab and dolor

CHORUS

C#

Eb

But oh the King and the Queen of Spain

G#

Fm

With their long unpronounceable names

C#

Eb

Fm

Eb

Grace the table at the long lost Kingdom of Spain

VERSE 2

C#

In the Kingdom of Light

Eb G# Fm

A lithe young lawyer

C#

Tries a case for

Eb G# Fm

Her unjustly arrested brother

CHORUS

But oh the King and the Queen of Light

G# Fm

Rule with unbendable might

C# Eb Fm Eb

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

BRIDGE

G# G# C# Eb G#

VERSE 3

In the Kingdom of Love

Eb G# Fm

Oh, we re all just fodder

C#

As the cannonades drub

Eb G# Fm

Our sons and daughters

CHORUS

But oh the King and the Queen of Love

G# Fm

In their long white fingerless gloves

C# Eb Fm Eb

Bang the gavel for the long lost Kingdom of Love

OUTRO

Eb Fm

Of love

Eb Fm

Of love

Eb