

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

D **D7**
As the Sun is sinking low,
G **Gm**
And the evening s tucked in tow,
D **Bm** **A** **A7**
On the horizon, my true love I see-e-e-e-eee.
D **D7**
She ain t fancy, she ain t fine
G **Gm**
While her fingers number only nine
D **Bm** **G** **A**
She s the belle of the ball of the insurgency.

CHORUS

D **Bm**
She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon
G **A**
In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two
D **Bm**
If I could find a way to your hideaway by the sea
G **A7** **D**
O Bandit Queen, steal away to me.

BRIDGE

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

D

And takes another swig from a bottle of bourbon

E7

A

And listening to the whistling of the train in station

N.D

Odds are it will never reach its destination.

D

Bm

Cause the Bandit Queen, astride her steed will ride

G

A

D

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

CHORUS

D

Bm

She s my Bandit Queen, laying beneath the moon

G

A

In a bandit cave, a blanket laid for two

D

Bm

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

G

A7

D

O Bandit Queen, steal away to me.

2. Bridges and Balloons

CAPO 4

VERSE 1

A

We sailed away on a winter s day

Dadd9

With fate as malleable as clay

A

But ships are fallible, I say

Dadd9

And the nautical, like all things, fades

A

And I can recall our caravel

Dadd9

A little wicker beetle shell

A

With four fine maste and lateen sails

Dadd9

Its bearings on Cair Paravel

CHORUS

Bm Dadd9

Oh my love

A

Oh it was a funny little thing

Bm

To be

D

The ones

A

To ve seen

VERSE 2

A

The sight of bridges and balloons

Dadd9

Makes calm canaries irritable

A

And they caw and claw all afternoon

Dadd9

Catenaries and dirigibles

A

Brace and buoy the living room

Dadd9

A loom of metal warp woof wimble

A

And a thimble's worth of milky moon

Dadd9

Can touch hearts larger than a thimble

CHORUS

Bm Dadd9

Oh my love

A

Oh it was a funny little thing

Bm

To be

D

The ones

A

To ve seen

OUTRO

Bm Dadd9

Oh my love

A

It was a funny little thing

Bm D A

Oh it was a funny funny funny little thing

Dadd9 A Dadd9 A Dadd9 A

3. Constantinople

Originally tabbed by: aflowerandagun

INTRO: **D D/B**

VERSE 1

D D/G D D/G

O the minarets of Constantinople

Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

Are plated gold, ivory, and opal

G G/C G G/C A A A A

Their cupolas all onion domed and light.

VERSE 2

D D/G D D/G

And the magistrate of Constantinople

Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

Has made a match; his family was hopeful

G G/C G G/C A A A A

Their daughter would be promised a wedding night.

CHORUS

G A

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

D D/B D/A D/G Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

Nor fall beneath a canopy to lie

G G/C G G/C A A A A

For far across the town, her lover now is drowned

D D/B D/A D/G Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

And painted by the Bosphorus in blue

G G/C G G/C A A A A

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

VERSE 3

D D/G D D/G

Down the dirty streets of Constantinople

Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

The beggars weep, their hands all wide open

G G/C G G/C A A A A

Their severed leper limbs all swing and sway.

VERSE 4

D D/G D D/G

At a windowsill in Constantinople

Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

Our Hero sighs to melodies noteful

G G/C G G/C A A A A

And gazes on the walls that hold his love.

CHORUS

G A

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

D D/B D/A D/G Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

Nor fall beneath a canopy to lie

G G/C G G/C A A A A

For far across the town, her lover now is drowned

D D/B D/A D/G Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E

And painted by the Bosphorus in blue

G G/C G G/C A A A A

And there s nothing for a broken heart to do.

OUTRO

G G/C G G/C A A A A

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

D D/B D/A D/G Bm Bm/E Bm Bm/E G G/C G G/C A A A A

Except cry.

A A A7 D

4. The Kingdom of Spain

Originally tabbed by: Unregistered

A A D E A

VERSE 1

D

In the Kingdom of Spain

E

A F#m

There are such colors

D

They defy any name

E

A

F#m

Like drab and dolor

CHORUS

D

E

But oh the King and the Queen of Spain

A

F#m

With their long unpronounceable names

D

E

F#m

E

Grace the table at the long lost Kingdom of Spain

VERSE 2

D

In the Kingdom of Light

E A F#m

A lithe young lawyer

D

Tries a case for

E A F#m

Her unjustly arrested brother

CHORUS

D E

But oh the King and the Queen of Light

A F#m

Rule with unbendable might

D E

F#m E

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

BRIDGE

A A D E A

VERSE 3

D

In the Kingdom of Love

E A F#m

Oh, we re all just fodder

D

As the cannonades drub

E A F#m

Our sons and daughters

CHORUS

D E

But oh the King and the Queen of Love

A F#m

In their long white fingerless gloves

D E

F#m E

Bang the gavel for the long lost Kingdom of Love

OUTRO

E F#m

Of love

E F#m

Of love

E