

Green Fields of France (John McDermott / Bobby Edwards / Eric Bogle)

G **Em** **C** **Am**
Well how do you do young Willie McBride,
D **D7** **C** **G**
Do you mind if I sit here down by your graveside,
Em **C** **Am**
And rest for a while in the warm summer sun,
D **D7** **C** **G**
I've been walking all day and I'm nearly done.
G **Em** **C** **Am**
I see by your gravestone you were only 19,
D **C** **G D7**
When you joined the great fallen in 1916,
G **Em** **Am**
Well I hope you died quick and I hope you died
clean,
D **D7** **C** **G**
Or Willie McBride was it slow and obscene.

Chorus:

G **D** **D7**
Did they beat the drum slowly,
C **G**
Did they play the fife lowly,
D **D7**
Did they sound the death march,
C **D**
As they lowered you down,
Am **G** **Em**
Did the band play the Last Post and Chorus,
G **C** **D7** **G**
Did the pipes play the Flowers of the Fo - rest.

G **Em** **C** **Am**
And did you leave a wife or a sweetheart behind,
D **D7** **C** **G**
In some loyal heart is your memory enshrined,
Em **C Am**
And though you died back in 1916,
D **D7** **C** **G**
To that loyal heart you're forever 19.
G **Em** **C** **Am**
Or are you a stranger without even a name,
D **C** **G** **D7**
Forever enshrined behind some old glass pane,
G **Em** **Am**
In an old photograph all torn tattered and stained,
D **D7** **C** **G**
And faded to yellow in a brown leather frame.

(Chorus)

G **Em** **C**
The sun's shining down on these green fields of
Am
France,
D **D7** **C**
The warm wind blows gently and the red poppies
G
dance,
Em **C** **Am**
The trenches have vanished long under the plow
D **D7** **C** **G**
No gas, no barbed wire, no guns firing now.
G **Em** **C** **Am**
But here in this graveyard it's still "No Man's
Land",
D **C** **G** **D7**
The countless white crosses in mute witness
stand,
G **Em** **Am**
To man's blind indifference to his fellow man,
D **D7** **C**
And a whole generation that were butchered and
G
damned.

(Chorus)

G **Em** **C** **Am**
And I can't help but wonder, oh Willie McBride
D **D7** **C** **G**
Do all those who lie here know why they died,
Em **C**
Did you really believe them when they told you
Am
the cause
D **D7** **C**
Did you really believe that this war would end
G
wars.
G **Em** **C**
Well, the suffering, the sorrow, the glory, the
Am
shame
D **C** **G** **D7**
The killing and dying it was all done in vain,
G **Em** **Am**
Oh Willie McBride it all happened again,
D **D7** **C** **G**
And again, and again, and again, and again.

(Chorus) 2x