

Bridge of Tears

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In a [C] Glen near Muckish Mountain
in the [F] north of Done [C] gal,
There [F] lies a [C] tiny [F] rocky [C] bridge,
Its [G] story few recall.

A [C] mother and her son one day
U [F] pon that bridge ap [C] peared
To [F] say their [C] very [F] last fare
[C] wells, Her [G] words to him were clear

“Fare [C] well, to you my precious son
That [F] now you’re on your [C] way
From [F] our sweet [C] home in [F] Gorta
[C] hork, Near Ma [G] gharoarty Bay.”
“And [C] now the time has come, alas
I [F] cannot bear to [C] see
Your [F] parting sha [C] dow [F] on the
[C] hill, As [G] you depart from me”

[CHORUS # 1]

“But [F] I will hold you [G] closely
[F] now the time is [C] here
Re [F] member [C] well this [F] lonely
[C] place they [G] call the Bridge of Tears.
And [F] you will venture [G] onwards,
And [F] I’ll be waiting [C] here,
And [F] ever [C] more I’ll [F] see your
[C] face, U [G] pon the Bridge of [C] Tears”

He [C] spoke to her in lowly voice
And [F] shuddered as he [C] spoke.
“Oh [F] Mother [C] I must [F] make my
[C] way, To [G] wards the waiting boat”.
He [C] lifted up his travel pack
His [F] heart fell to his [C] feet
And he [F] turned and [C] ventured [F] up
the [C] hill
Where the [G] crag and forest meet.

And she [C] watched him in the falling light,
Climb [F] up towards the [C] moon,

That [F] often [C] sheds an [F] eerie [C] light,
U [G] pon the heather’s bloom.
She [C] tried to reach out towards him
But [F] he had disap [C] peared,
So she [F] sat u [C] pon the [F] rocky bridge,
Her [G] face aflood with [C] tears.

[CHORUS # 2]

“And I [F] want to hold you [G] closely,
[F] now the time is [C] here.
ReF member [C] well this [F] lonely
[C] place, They [G] call the Bridge of Tears.
And [F] you will venture [G] onwards,
But [F] I’ll be waiting [C] here,
And [F] ever [C] more I’ll sF ee your
[C] face, U [G] pon the Bridge of [C] Tears”

[INSTRUMENTAL]

And [C] then there came a silence
So [F] woeful and for [C] lorn,
Like [F] in that [C] dreadful [F] Springtime
When the [G] killing blight was born.
For she [C] had lost four children
And her [F] husband Paddy Bawn
To the [F] blight of [C] Eighteen [F] Forty-
[C] Five
And the [G] famine that it spawned.

And [C] now her only son had gone
She was [F] left in darkened [C] fear
[F] lost with [C] in that [F] lonely [C] place,
They [G] call the Bridge of Tears.
And she [C] set out on the boggy road
And [F] sadly she did [C] go
To [F] wards her [C] empty [F] little
[C] house
So [G] joyful long [C] ago.

[REPEAT CHORUS # 2]

