

# The Mary Ellen Carter

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## The Mary Ellen Carter

Stan Rogers

$\text{♩} = 180$

She went down last Oc - to - ber in a pour - ing, driv - ing rain. The

5 skip - per, he'd been drink - ing, and the mate, he felt no pain. Too

9 close to Three Mile Rock and she was dealt her mor - tal blow. And the

13 Mar - y Ell - en Car - ter set - tled low. There were

17 just us five a - board her when she final - ly was a - wash. We'd

21 worked like hell to save her, all heed - less of the cost. And the

25 groan she gave as she went down, it caused us to pro - claim that the

29 Mar - y Ell - en Car - ter would rise a - - gain. \_\_\_\_\_

32 Rise a - gain, \_\_\_\_\_ Rise a - gain, \_\_\_\_\_ That her name not be lost to the

38 know - ledge of men. All those who loved her best and were

42 with her 'till the end will make the Mar - y Ell - en Car - ter rise a - gain!

X:1  
 T:The Mary Ellen Carter  
 C:Stan Rogers  
 M:2/2  
 L:1/4  
 Q:1/4=180  
 K:C major  
 x2 G |\  
 w:She  
 GG GF | EG GG |\  
 w:went down last Oc- | to-ber in a |\  
 cc dB | c3 e |  
 w:pour-ing, driv-ing rain. The |\  
 ff fe | dc cc |\  
 w:skip-per, he'd been drink-ing, and the |\  
 AA Bc | d3 d |  
 w:mate, he felt no pain. Too |\  
 ee ef | ed cB |\  
 w:close to Three Mile | Rock and she was  
 AB cA | G2 GG |  
 w:dealt her mor-tal | blow. And the |  
 FF FF | FG AF |\  
 w:Mar-y Ell-en | Car-ter set-tled  
 D4- | D2 GG |  
 w:low.\* There were  
 GG GF | EG cc |\  
 w:just us five a- | board her when she  
 cc dB | c3 e |  
 w:final-ly was a- | wash. We'd  
 ff f>e | \  
 w:worked like hell to |  
 d c-c c | AA Bc | d3 d/d/ |  
 w:save her,\* all | heed-less of the | cost. And the  
 ee ef | ed cB |\  
 w:groan she gave as | she went down, it  
 AB cA | G2 GG |  
 w:caused us to pro- | claim that the  
 FG AF | G B/B/ d/c/ B |\  
 w:Mar-y Ell-en | Car-ter would rise\* a-  
 c4- | c2 ||  
 w:gain.\_  
 e>f | d4- | d2 e>f | (e/d/c- c2- | c2) cB |\  
 w:Rise a- | gain,\_ Rise a- | gain.\_\_\_\_\* That her |  
 A2 cd | c2 BA |  
 w:name not be | lost to the |  
 G2 FE | D3 G |\  
 w:know-ledge of | men. All

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G>G GF | E2 GG |  
w:those who loved her | best and were |  
c<c d>e |\   
w:with her 'till the |  
ec cB | AB cA | Gc dB | c3 |]  
w:end will make the | Mar-y Ell-en | Car-ter rise a- | gain! |
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### Words & Tune by Stan Rogers

She went down last October in a pouring driving rain. The skipper, he'd been drinking and the Mate, he felt no pain. Too close to Three Mile Rock, and she was dealt her mortal blow, And the Mary Ellen Carter settled low. There were five of us aboard her when she finally was awash. We'd worked like hell to save her, all heedless of the cost. And the groan she gave as she went down, it caused us to proclaim That the Mary Ellen Carter would rise again.

Well, the owners wrote her off; not a nickel would they spend. She gave twenty years of service, boys, then met her sorry end. But insurance paid the loss to them, they let her rest below. Then they laughed at us and said we had to go. But we talked of her all winter, some days around the clock, For she's worth a quarter million, afloat and at the dock. And with every jar that hit the bar, we swore we would remain And make the Mary Ellen Carter rise again.

Rise again, rise again, that her name not be lost To the knowledge of men. Those who loved her best and were with her till the end Will make the Mary Ellen Carter rise again.

All spring, now, we've been with her on a barge lent by a friend. Three dives a day in hard hat suit and twice I've had the bends. Thank God it's only sixty feet and the currents here are slow Or I'd never have the strength to go below. But we've patched her rents, stopped her vents, dogged hatch and porthole down. Put cables to her, 'fore and aft and girded her around. Tomorrow, noon, we hit the air and then take up the strain. And watch the Mary Ellen Carter Rise Again.

For we couldn't leave her there, you see, to crumble into scale. She'd saved our lives so many times, living through the gale And the laughing, drunken rats who left her to a sorry grave They won't be laughing in another day. . . And you, to whom adversity has dealt the final blow With smiling bastards lying to you everywhere you go Turn to, and put out all your strength of arm and heart and brain And like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise again.

Rise again, rise again - though your heart it be broken And life about to end No matter what you've lost, be it a home, a love, a friend. Like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise again.

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