

The Legionnaire's Lament (Em)

The Decemberists • *Castaways and Cutouts*

Chord progression, transposed down into E minor

Verse: Em G A C/B (repeat)

Chorus: G D Am C (repeat) Cm Em G A C/B

1. I'm a legionnaire,
Camel in disrepair
Hoping for a Frigidaire
to come passing by.
I am on reprieve,
lacking my joie de vivre,
missing my gay Paree,
in this desert dry.

2. And I wrote my girl
Told her I would not return
Terribly taken a turn
For the worse now I fear

3. It's been a year or more
Since they shipped me to this foreign shore
Fighting in a foreign war
So far away from my home

CHORUS:

If only some rain would fall
On the houses and the boulevards
and the sidewalk bagatelles (it's like a dream)
with the roar of cars
and the lolling of the cafe bars,
the sweetly sleeping sweeping of the Seine.
Lord I don't know if I'll ever be back again.
La la la la dam
La la la low

4. Medicating in the sun
Pinched doses of laudanum
Longing for the old fecun-
dity of my homeland

5. Curses to this mirage!
A bottle of ancient Shiraz
A smattering of distant applause
Is ringing in my poor ears

6. On the old left bank
My baby in a charabanc
Riding up the width and length
Of the Champs Elysees

REPEAT CHORUS

INTERLUDE

Em G A C B

REPEAT CHORUS, after Em into...

Be back again, be back again, O be back again
Oh oh oh oh oh, la la la la, la la la la, oh oh oh oh

G D Am C Cm Em

