

## Rumours Of War

Billy Bragg

There were soldiers marching on the common today  
They were there again this evening  
They paced up and down like seabirds on the ground  
Before the storm clouds gathering

I must buy whatever tin food is left on the shelves  
They're testing the air-raid sirens  
They've built up the blood-banks and emptied the beds  
At the hospital and the asylum

Saw a man build a shelter in his garden today  
As we stood there idly chatting  
He said "No, no I don't think war will come"  
Yet still he carried on digging

Everything in my life that I love  
Could be swept away without warning  
Yet the birds still sing and the church bells ring  
And the sun came up this morning

Life goes on as it did before  
As the country drifts slowly to war