Victor Jara

Christy Moore

Victor Jara of Chile lived like a shooting star He fought for the people of Chile with his songs and his guitar His hands were gentle and his hands were strong

Victor Jara was a peasant boy barely six years old He sat upon his father's plough and watched the earth unfold

When the neighbours had a wedding or one of their children died His mother sang all night to them with Victor by her side

He grew up to be a fighter stood against what was wrong He learned of peoples grief and joy and turned it into song

He sang for the copper miners and those who farmed the land He sang for the factory workers who knew Victor was their man

He campaigned for Allende canvassed night and day Singing take hold of your brother's hand the future starts today

When Pinochet seized Chile they arrested Victor then They caged him in the stadium with 5000 frightened men

Victor picked up his guitar his voice resounded strong And he sang for his comrades till the guards cut short his song

They broke the bones in both his hands and beat him on the head Tortured him with electric wires then they shot him dead

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