A Pict Song

[Originally by Billy Bragg]

Rome never looks where she treads Always her heavy hooves fall On our stomachs, our hearts and our heads And Rome never hears when we bawl

Her sentries pass on -- that is all And we gather behind them in hordes And plot to reconquer the Wall With only our tongues for our swords

For we are the little folk -- we! Too little to love or to hate Leave us alone and you'll see That we can bring down the state

Mistletoe killing an oak Rats gnawing cables in two Moths making holes in a cloak How they must love what they do!

Yes -- and we little folk too We are as busy as they Working our works out of view Watch, and you'll see it some day

No indeed! We are not strong But we know of Peoples that are Yes and we'll guide them along To smash and destroy you in war

We shall be slaves just the same? Yes, we have always been slaves But you -- you will die of the shame And then we will dance on your graves

We are the worm in the wood! We are the rot at the root! We are the taint in the blood! We are the thorn in the foot!

Rudyard Kipling