

# The Graveyard of the Outcast Dead

Frank Turner

They buried my body on Christmas  
In the ground by the south river bank  
Worked to my death, for my very last breath  
I'd the Winchester bishops to thank  
Now the church held the keys to the brothel  
Lit the window with a burning red light  
While I teased the funds from the pockets of johns  
The bishop got rich in the night

But I didn't fall apart  
Through my years in the dark  
For my lover I guarded  
My pure, pure heart

And he meets me in the graveyard  
The graveyard where they made my bed  
Plants a white flower under cold stars  
On the grave of the forgotten dead

Now the bishops snuck off to fresh pastures  
While my grave was grown over with weeds  
No burial plots, just some forget-me-nots  
For the women they branded unclean  
The wasteland was claimed by the city  
They covered it with tenement slums  
For where we'd been left had never been blessed  
And they dug down and built on our bones

But every December  
With frost on his fingers  
My lover returns  
For he still remembers

To meet me in the graveyard  
The graveyard where they made my bed  
Plants a white flower under cold stars  
On the grave of the forgotten dead

The sun goes down and the last folk leave  
It's London Town on Christmas Eve  
My lover still wanders bereft and bereaved  
For he can't find the woman that he promised he'd meet  
The sun comes up on the cold, cold ground  
It's Christmas morning in London Town  
He lays on my grave and he cradles his head  
And as he hears the church bells, he knows that I'm dead

So London, don't mourn for your lovers  
Raise a glass for us glorious dead  
For beneath Southwark streets, we outlasted the priests  
And the city's raised up on our beds  
Though we're gone, London, do not forget

To meet us on Christmas  
In the graveyard where they made our bed  
Plant a white flower for the outcasts  
On the graves of the forgotten dead

Oh to meet us on Christmas  
In the graveyard where they made our bed  
Plant a white flower for the outcasts  
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