Back Home In Derry

Seven Nations

Back Home In Derry
(Traditional melody; lyrics by B Sands)

In 1803 we sailed out to sea Out from the sweet town of Derry For Australia bound if we didn't all drown And the marks of our fetters we carried And rusty iron chains we sighed for our wanes As our good wives we left home in sorrow As the main sails unfurled our curses we hurled On the English and thought of tomorrow

Woah-oh-oh I wish I was back home in Derry Woah-oh-oh I wish I was back home in Derry

I cursed them to hell as our bough fought the swell Our ship danced like a moth in the firelight White horses rode high as the Devil passed by Taking souls to Hades by twilight Five weeks out to sea we were now forty-three Our comrades we buried each morning And in our own slime we were lost and on time Endless nights without dawning

Van Diemen's land is a hell for a man To live out his life in slavery Where climate is raw and the gun makes the law Neither wind or rain cares for bravery In the years've gone by an' I've ended my bond And comrade's ghosts are behind me A rebel I came and I'll die just the same On the cold winds of night you will find me