

# Gentleman Soldier

## The Dubliners

Gentleman soldier

Well I saw the gentleman soldier, as a sentry he did stand  
He saluted the fair maid by a waving of his hand  
So boldly then he kissed her and he passed it off as a joke  
He drilled her up to the sentry box  
Wrapped up in a soldier's coat

And the drums they go with a rat-a-ta-tat  
And the fifes they loudly play  
Fare thee well, Polly me dear, I must be going away  
All night they tossed and tumbled till daylight did appear  
The soldier rose, put on his clothes  
Said: 'Fare ey well, me dear'  
For the drums they are a sounding  
And the fifes they sweetly play  
And if it weren't for that, my Polly  
Then along with you I'd stay

O come, ye gentleman soldier, 'won't you marry me?'  
'Oh no, me dearest Polly such things never can be  
For I have a wife already and children I have three  
Two wives are allowed in the army  
But one is too many for me'

If anyone comes a courting you  
You can treat them to a glass  
If anyone comes a courting you  
You can say you're a country lass  
You don't have to tell them  
That ever you played this joke  
That you were drilled in a sentry box  
Wrapped up in a soldier's coat

'Oh come ye gentleman soldier, why didn't you tell me so  
My parents will be angry when this they come to know'  
And when nine long months had come and passed,  
And purgatory got shame  
She had a little millitia boy  
And she didn't know his name

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