THE MARY ELLEN CARTER—Stan Rogers

Intro:  G  GMA7  G6  GMA7 (X2)

G                           GMA7        G6                       G
She went down last Oc-to-ber in a pouring driving rain.
Am         C                      D7
The skipper, he'd been drinking and the Mate, he felt no pain.
G                           GMA7        G6                      G
Too close to Three Mile Rock, and she was dealt her mortal blow,
Am         D7
And the Mary Ellen Carter settled low.
G                           GMA7        G6                      G
There was just us five a-board her when she finally was a-wash.
Am         C                      D7
We'd worked like hell to save her, all heedless of the cost.
G                           GMA7        G6                      G
And the groan she gave as she went down, it caused us to pro-claim
Am         D7                      G  GMA7  G6  GMA7
That the Mary Ellen Carter would rise a-gain.

G                           GMA7        C                      G
Well, the owners wrote her off; not a nickel would they spend.
Am         C                      D7
She gave twenty years of service, boys, then met her sorry end.
G                           GMA7        C                      G
But in-surance paid the loss to us, so let her rest be-low.
Am         D7
Then they laughed at us and said we had to go.
G                           GMA7        C                      G
But we talked of her all winter, some days around the clock,
Am         C                      D7
She's worth a quarter million, a-floatin' at the dock.
G                           GMA7        C  D7                      G
And with every jar that hit the bar, we swore we would re-main
Am         D7                      G
And make the Mary Ellen Carter rise a-gain.

Am D7                      G     Em                 C                                     G                   D7
Rise a-gain, rise a-gain, that her name not be lost to the knowledge of men.
G                           GMA7        C                      G  D7
All those who loved her best, and were with her till the end
Am         D7                      G  GMA7  G6  GMA7 (X2)
Will make the Mary Ellen Carter rise a-gain.
All spring, now, we've been with her on a barge lent by a friend.
Three dives a day in hard hat suit and twice I've had the bends.
Thank God it's only sixty feet and the currents here are slow
Or I'd never have the strength to go be-low.
But we've patched her rents, stopped her vents, dogged hatch and porthole down.
Put cables to her, 'fore and aft and girded her a-round.
To-morrow, noon, we hit the air and then take up the strain.
And make the Mary Ellen Carter Rise A-gain.
Rise a-gain, rise a-gain, that her name not be lost to the knowledge of men.
All those who loved her best, and were with her till the end
Will make the Mary Ellen Carter rise a-gain.
For we couldn't leave her there, you see, to crumble into scale.
She'd saved our lives so many times, living through the gale
And the laughing, drunken rats who left her to a sorry grave
They won't be laughing in another day
And you, to whom ad-versity has dealt the final blow
With smiling bastards lying to you everywhere you go
Turn to, and put out all your strength of arm and heart and brain
And like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise a-gain.
Rise a-gain, rise a-gain though your heart it be broken, and life about to end
No matter what you've lost, be it a home, a love, a friend.
Like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise a-gain. Just like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise a-gain.