

Cold Missouri Waters

James Keelaghan IV-25

My <u>name</u> is Dodge, but then <u>you</u> know that	D Bm
It's <u>written</u> on the chart there at the <u>foot</u> end of the <u>bed</u>	G D A
They <u>think</u> I'm blind, I can't <u>read</u> it	D Bm
I've <u>read</u> it every word, and every word <u>it</u> says is <u>death</u>	G D A
So, <u>confession</u> - is that the <u>reason</u> that you <u>came</u> ?	Bm G D
Get it <u>off</u> my chest before I <u>check</u> out of the <u>game</u>	Bm G A
Since you <u>mention</u> it, well there's <u>thirteen</u> things I'll <u>name</u>	Bm G D
<u>Thirteen</u> crosses <u>high</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>waters</u>	Em G A Bm
August ' <u>forty-nine</u> , north <u>Montana</u>	D Bm
The <u>hottest</u> day on record, the <u>forest</u> tinder <u>dry</u>	G D A
Lightning <u>strikes</u> in the <u>mountains</u>	D Bm
I was <u>crew</u> chief at the jump base, I prepared the <u>boys</u> to <u>fly</u>	G D A
Pick the <u>drop</u> zone, <u>C-47</u> comes in <u>low</u>	Bm G D
Feel the <u>tap</u> upon your leg that <u>tells</u> you, "go!"	Bm G A
See the <u>circle</u> of the <u>fire</u> down <u>below</u>	Bm G D
<u>Fifteen</u> of us <u>dropped</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>waters</u>	Em G A Bm
Gauged the <u>fire</u> , I'd seen <u>bigger</u> ,	D Bm
So I <u>ordered</u> them to sidehill and we'd <u>fight</u> it from <u>below</u>	G D A
We'd have our <u>backs</u> to the <u>river</u>	D Bm
We'd <u>have</u> it licked by morning even <u>if</u> we took it <u>slow</u>	G D A
But the <u>fire</u> crowned, jumped the <u>valley</u> just <u>ahead</u>	Bm G D
There was <u>no</u> way down, headed <u>for</u> the ridge <u>instead</u>	Bm G A
Too big to <u>fight</u> it, we'd have to <u>fight</u> that slope <u>instead</u>	Bm G D
<u>Flames</u> one step <u>behind</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>waters</u>	Em G A Bm
Sky had <u>turned</u> red, smoke was <u>boiling</u>	D Bm
Two <u>hundred</u> yards to safety, death was <u>fifty</u> yards <u>behind</u>	G D A
I don't <u>know</u> why I just <u>thought</u> it	D Bm
I <u>struck</u> a match to waist high grass <u>running</u> out of <u>time</u>	G D A
Tried to <u>tell</u> them, step <u>into</u> this fire I <u>set</u>	Bm G D
We can't <u>make</u> it, this is the <u>only</u> chance you'll <u>get</u>	Bm G A
But they <u>curled</u> me, ran for the <u>rocks</u> above <u>instead</u>	Bm G D
I <u>lay</u> face down and <u>prayed</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>waters</u>	Em G A Bm
And <u>when</u> I rose, like the <u>phoenix</u>	D Bm
In that <u>world</u> reduced to ashes there were <u>none</u> but two <u>survived</u>	G D A
I <u>stayed</u> that night and one day <u>after</u>	D Bm
Carried <u>bodies</u> to the river, wonder <u>how</u> I stayed <u>alive</u>	G D A
Thirteen <u>stations</u> of the <u>cross</u> to mark to their <u>fall</u>	Bm G D
I've <u>had</u> my say, I'll <u>confess</u> to nothing <u>more</u>	Bm G A
I'll <u>join</u> them now, those that <u>left</u> me long <u>before</u>	Bm G D
<u>Thirteen</u> crosses <u>high</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>waters</u>	Em G A Bm
<u>Thirteen</u> crosses <u>high</u> above the <u>cold</u> Missouri <u>shore</u>	Em G A D