

# LONELY BANNA STRAND

*Performed by:* Frankie Nash

Being on a Friday morning all in the month of May,  
When a German ship lay signalling beyond there in the bay:  
'We have twenty thousand rifles but they never will reach land.  
We'll sink them all and bid farewell to lonely Banna Strand.'

An aeroplane was flying through the early morning gloom,  
When suddenly and in a crash it fell to meet its doom.  
Two Irish boys lay dying there just like their hopes so grand,  
They could not give the signal from the lonely Banna Strand.

'No signal answers from the shore,' Sir Roger sadly said,  
'No comrades there to welcome us, at last<sup>1</sup> they must be dead.  
So I must do my duty and at once I mean to land.'  
So in a boat they pulled away to lonely Banna Strand.

The German ship was lying there with rifles in galore.  
Up come a British ship and spoke, 'No German reached our shore.  
You are our empire enemy, and so we bid you stand.  
No German foot shall ever pollute on lonely Banna Strand.'

They sailed for Queenstown Harbour, said the Germans: 'We are undone.  
Our British ship being mastered, man for man and gun for gun.  
We have twenty thousand rifles but they never will reach land.  
We'll sink them all and bid farewell to lonely Banna Strand.'

The policemen they were hunting for Rogers high and low,  
They found him at Maginnies<sup>2</sup> Fort, he said, 'You are our foe.  
You are our empire enemy and so we bid you stand,  
For bringing German rifles to lonely Banna Strand.'

'Farewell my native country, I meant to set you free,  
Alas I fear I've brought fear and woe and misery.  
God's curse upon the Germans who persuaded me to land,  
Who fled, and left me to my fate on lonely Banna Strand.'

Tw'as in an English prison they led him to his death.  
'I'm dying for my country,' he said with his last breath.  
He's buried in a prison tomb far from his native land.  
The wild waves sing his requiem on lonely Banna Strand.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Editor's note:* alas.

<sup>2</sup> *Editor's note:* McKenna's.