

## Ray Stevens "Irish Builder"

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Dear Sir I write this note to you to tell you of me' plight  
For at the time of writing I am not a pretty sight  
Me body is all black and blue  
Me face a deathly grey  
And I write this note to tell you why I'm not at work  
today

While working on the fourteenth floor, some bricks I  
had to clear  
But to toss them down from such a height was not a  
good idea  
The foreman wasn't very pleased, he is an awkward  
sod  
He said I'd have to cart them down the ladders in me  
hod

Now shifting all those bricks by hand it was so very  
slow  
So I hoisted up a barrel and secured a rope below  
But in me haste to do the job I was to blind to see  
That a barrel full of building bricks is heavier than me

And so when I untied the rope the barrel fell like lead  
And clinging tightly to the rope I started up instead  
I shot up like a rocket til' to my dismay I found  
That half way up I met the bloody barrel comin' down

Now the barrel broke me shoulder, as to the ground it  
sped  
And when I reached the top I banged the pulley with me  
head  
I clung on tightly numb with shock from this almighty  
blow  
And the barrel spilled out half the bricks fourteen floors  
below

Now when these bricks had fallen from the barrel to the  
floor  
I then outweighed the barrel and so started down once  
more  
Still clinging tightly to the rope my body racked with  
pain

Half way down I met the bloody barrel once again

Now the force of this collision halfway down the office  
block

Caused multiple contusions and nasty state of shock  
Still clinging tightly to the rope I fell toward the ground  
And landed on the broken bricks the barrel had  
scattered round

Well I lay there groaning on the ground I thought I'd  
past the worst

But the barrel hit the pulley wheel and then the bottom  
burst

A shower of bricks rained down on me I didn't have a  
hope

For as I lay there bleeding I let go of the bloody rope

The barrel being unsecured then started down once  
more

And it landed right across me as I lay there on the floor  
It broke three ribs and my left arm and I can only say  
That I hope you'll understand why Murphy's not at work  
today...

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