

Shane Macgowan And The Popes "The Snake With Eyes Of Garnet"

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Last night as I lay dreaming
My way across the sea
James Mangan brought me comfort
With laudnum and poitin

He flew me back to Dublin
In 1819
To a public execution
Being held on Stephen's Green

The young man on the platform
Held his head up and he did sing
Then he whispered hard into my ear
As he handed me this ring

"If you miss me on the harbor
For the boat, it leaves at three
Take this snake with eyes of garnet
My mother gave to me"

"This snake cannot be captured
This snake cannot be tied
This snake cannot be tortured
Or hung, or crucified"

"It came down through the ages
It belongs to you and me
So pass it on and pass it on
'Till all mankind is free"

"If you miss me on the harbor
For the boat, it leaves at three
Take this snake with eyes of garnet
My mother gave to me"

He swung, his face went purple
A roar came from the crowd
But Mangan laughed and pushed me
And we got back on the cloud

He dropped me off in London
Back in this dying land

But my eyes were filled with wonder
At the ring still in my hand

If you miss me on the harbor
For the boat, it leaves at three
Take this snake with eyes of garnet
My mother gave to me

And if you miss me on the harbor
For the boat, it leaves at three
Take this snake with eyes of garnet
My mother gave to me

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