Bittersweet 1942 (HMCS K182)

(Tribute to Ronnie Corbett and all Navy Veterans of the Battle of the Atlantic) Just a boy of 17^{-} , when he $\frac{Dm}{signed}$ up for a war $\frac{F}{Desperate}$ to leave that $\frac{E}{farm}$,

didn't Am know what he was in for

And he $^{\mathbf{Am}}$ saw so many things he had $^{\mathbf{Dm}}$ never seen before As a $^{\mathbf{F}}$ Corvette $^{\mathbf{E}}$ stoker on the North At $^{\mathbf{Am}}$ lantic

A Am Bittersweet adventure, he Dm lost so many friends

And the war dragged on and on,
a cruel Am world without an end

As the Am ice closed in around him, he Dm hung on for his life F Watching men E die in the North At Am lantic

ff_{Wo--oh}C_{Mama can you hear me,I'm}E_{doing just fine}

You'll know she's Dm7 covered up with ice, if you Am read between the lines

And I^Calmost fell in there,

on my watch the other night Into the $^{\mathbf{Dm}\downarrow}$ cold, cold depths of the North At $^{\mathbf{Am}}$ lantic

The Flower Class like whaling ships had been the first to come

With funnels dressed in Maple Leafs they sailed the northern run

Angus L, took up the charge, and said we needed more

Corvettes protecting Convoys, As they crawl from shore to shore

Our shipyards would meet the challenge & build 100 more

To match the **never ending need** of this godforsaken war

ffwo-oh, C Mama can you hear me, we're E so far from home We Dm7 don't know where we are,

we just Am hope we're here alone

Our boys were ^Ccrying in the water,

but there was $\stackrel{E}{\text{nothing we could do}}$ But $\stackrel{Dm}{\downarrow}$ Stare in $\stackrel{E}{\text{shock}}$ at the North At $\stackrel{Am}{\text{lantic}}$

Half tempo...half talking

It got so deathly quiet then
That Convoy ship went down so slow
And the ASDIC echoed its lonely Hymn...pause
There'll be no Crosses, Row on Row

Break (harmonica) Am, Dm, F, E, Am ...then speeding up

But we Am had to keep on moving then,

The Dm Wolfpacks were closing in

We Fknew their boys were Ecrying too

There would ^{Am}be no peace for them

ff_{Wo--oh}, C_{Mama can you hear me,} We're ^Eon our way to you

Their Dm7 cries are in our frozen dreams

There was Am nothing we could do

I still get so Cangry now

as I see $you^{\mbox{\bf E}}$ waiting on the pier

They make you wait three more days

when you know Am we must be here

mp
It was so long ago, but the Dm7 story doesn't change
That nightmare never ends, just re peats itself again
re peats itself again... re peats itself again

.f.f Now the ^CPopinjays all shout out,

"we'll Enever cut and run"

You Dm7 know we're behind you boys,

just Am shoot em up for fun"...pause

mp He said.....

They haven't ever been there, in the bm sights of a gun Chasing subs in the North At ham lantic

Hearing men cry in the North At ham lantic

Watching men die E Esus4 in the North At ham lantic