

The Irish Ballad

Words & Music: Tom Lehrer

Dm

1. A - bout a maid_____ I'll sing a song,
 2. One morn - ing in_____ a fit of pique,
 3. Her moth - er she_____ could ne - ver stand,
 4. She set her sis - ter's hair on fire,
 5. She weighted her bro - ther down with stones,
 6. One day when she_____ had nothing to do,
 7. And when at last the po - lice came by,
 8. My tra - gic tale_____ I won't pro - long,

4

Gm Dm

Sing rick - e - ty - tick - e - ty tin.

7

Gm Dm

A - out a maid_____ I'll sing a song Who
 One morn - ing in_____ a fit of pique, She
 Her moth - er she_____ could ne - ver stand, And
 She set her sis - ter's hair on fire, And
 She weighted her bro - ther down with stones, And
 One day when she_____ had nothing to do, She
 And when at last the po - lice came by, Her
 My tra - gic tale_____ I won't pro - long, And

10

C Dm

did - n't have_____ her fam - 'ly long, Not
 drowned her fa - ther in the creek, The
 so a cy - a - nide soup she planned, The
 as the smoke_____ and flame rose high'r,
 sent him off_____ to Da - vy Jones, And
 cut her ba - by brother in two, And
 lit - tle pranks she did not de - ny, To
 if you do not en - joy this song, You've your

12

Gm Dm Gm

on - ly did she do them wrong, She
 wa - ter tast - ed bad for a week, And we
 moth - er died with the spoon in her hand, And her
 Danced a - round the fun - 'ral pyre, And oc -
 all they e - ver found were some bones, And in -
 served him up as an I - rish stew, And in -
 do so she would have had to lie, And
 selves to blame if it's too long, You should

14

Dm C Dm C

did ev' - ry - one of them in, them in, She
 had to make do with gin, with gin, We
 face in a hid - e - ous grin, a grin, Her
 Play - ing a vi - o - lin, o - lin,
 cas - ion - al pie - ces of skin, of skin, Oc -
 vi - ted the neigh - bours in, bours in, In -
 ly - ing, she knew, was a sin, a sin,
 ne - ver have let me be - gin, be - gin, You should

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Dm C Dm

did ev' - ry - one of them in.
 had to make do with gin.
 face in a hid - e - ous grin.
 Play - ing a vi - o - lin.
 cas - ion - al pie - ces of skin.
 vi - ted the neigh - bours in.
 Ly - ing, she knew, was a sin.
 ne - ver have let me be - gin.