

# Billy, Don't Be a Hero

Dewey Cox

The marchin' band came down along Maine Street  
The soldier blues fell in behind  
I looked across and there I saw Billy  
Waiting to go and join the line And with her head upon his shoulder  
His young and lovely fiance  
From where I stood I saw she was cryin'  
And through her tears I heard her say Billy, don't be a hero, don't be a fool with your life  
Billy, don't be a hero, come back and make me your wife  
And as Billy started to go she said keep your pretty head low  
Billy, don't be a hero, come back to me The soldier blues were trapped on a hillside  
The battle raging all around  
The sergeant cried, we've got to hang on, boys  
We've gotta hold this piece of ground I need a volunteer to ride out  
And bring us back some extra men  
And Billy's hand was up in a moment  
Forgettin' all the words she said, she said Billy, don't be a hero, don't be a fool with your life  
Billy, don't be a hero, come back and make me your wife  
And as Billy started to go she said, keep your pretty head low  
Billy, don't be a hero, come back to me I heard his fiance got a letter  
That told how Billy died that day  
The letter said that he was a hero  
She should be proud he died that way  
I heard she threw the letter away

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