

# Mrs. McGrath

## Frank McCourt

"Oh, Mrs. McGrath," the sergeant said  
"Would you like to make a soldier out of your son Ted  
With a scarlett coat and a big cocked hat  
Oh, Mrs. McGrath, wouldn't you like that?"

[Chorus]

With your too-ri-a, fol-di-diddle-da, too-ri, oor-ri, oor-ri-a  
With your too-ri-a, fol-di-diddle-da, too-ri, oor-ri, oor-ri-a

Now, Mrs. McGrath lived on the sea shore  
For the space of seven long years or more  
She spied a ship coming into the bay  
"Here's my son Teddy, wisha clear the way"

[Chorus]

"Oh captain dear, where have you been  
Or have you been sailing on the Mediterranean  
Have you any tidings of my son Ted  
Is the poor boy living or is he dead?"

[Chorus]

Then up came Ted without any legs  
And in their place, he had two wooden pegs  
She kissed him a dozen times or two  
"Holy Moses, it isn't you"

[Chorus]

"Now were you drunk or were you blind  
When you left your two fine legs behind  
Or was it walking upon the say  
Wore your two fine legs from the knees away?"

[Chorus]

"No, I wasn't drunk and I wasn't blind  
When I left my two fine legs behind  
A big cannon ball on the fifth of May

Tore my two fine legs from the knees away"

[Chorus]

"Oh, Teddy my boy," the widow cried  
"Your two fine legs were your mammy's pride  
Stumps of a tree wouldn't do at all  
Why didn't you run from the big cannon ball?"

[Chorus]

"All foreign wars I do proclaim  
Between Don John and the King of Spain  
I'd rather have my Teddy as he used to be  
Than the King of France and his whole navy"

[Chorus]

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