

ACROSS THE WATER

ALAN REID

THE SERGEANT RAISED HIS GLASS AND SAID
THERE'S MANY DROPS OF BLOOD BEEN SHED
BUT LET US TURN AN EYE TOWARDS THE FUTURE
FOR THEY SAY THAT PEACE HAS BROKEN OUT ACROSS THE WATER

NO MORE YOUNG MEN ARE OFF TO WAR
NO MORE THE GUNMEN TO THE FORE
NO MORE THE NEED FOR BULLET, BOMB OR MARTYR
FOR THEY SAY THAT PEACE HAS BROKEN OUT ACROSS THE WATER

AND NOW THE MEN OF VIOLENCE
MAY COME TO SEE THERE'S NO SENSE
CONTINUING THE KILLING AND THE SLAUGHTER
IF IT'S TRUE THAT PEACE HAS BROKEN OUT ACROSS THE WATER

THE FORCES OF DIVISION KNOW
THEIR INFLUENCE LIKE MELTING SNOW
IS WANING SO THEY JOSTLE AND MANOEUVRE
THEY'RE AFRAID THAT PEACE IS BREAKING OUT ACROSS THE WATER

IT WON'T BE EASY
SO MANY TIMES BEFORE WE'VE SEEN THE PROMISE OF THE DAWN
AND AFTER ALL THE RHETORIC THE GUN HAS ALWAYS WON
IT WON'T BE EASY

THE FLUTE, THE FIDDLE AND THE GUN
ACCOMPANY THE SINGER'S SONG
THE WHISTLE HARMONISES WITH THE CHANTER
IT'S ANOTHER TUNE THEY'RE LEARNING NOW ACROSS THE WATER

LET EVERYONE THROUGHOUT THE LAND
COME LEAD THEIR CHILDREN BY THE HAND
AND EACH EMBRACE THEIR SISTER AND THEIR BROTHER
THEN WE'LL KNOW FOR SURE THAT PEACE HAS BROKEN OUT ACROSS THE
WATER