

The Bricklayer's Song

Pat Cooksey

♩ = 180

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. Above the first staff are the chords E/D, B7/A7, and E/D. Above the second staff are A/G, E/D, and B7/A7. Above the third staff are A/G, E/D, Fm/Em, and A/G. Above the fourth staff are E/D, B7/A7, and E/D. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Note: Alternate chords are for CAPO II

The Bricklayer's Song (Pat Cooksey)

Dear Sir I write this note to tell you of my plight;
For at the time of writing it, I'm not a pretty sight.
My body is all black and blue, my face a deathly gray,
And I write this note to say why I am not at work today.

Whilst working on the 14th floor, some bricks I had to clear;
And tossing them down from off the top seemed quite a good idea.
But the Foreman wasn't very pleased, he's such an awkward sod,
And he said I had to cart them down the ladder in me hod.

Now clearing all those bricks by hand, it was so very slow,
So I hoisted up a barrel and secured the rope below.
But in my haste to do the job, I was too blind to see
That a barrel full of building bricks is heavier than me.

And so when I untied the rope, the barrel fell like lead,
And clinging tightly to the rope I started up instead.
I shot up like a rocket, and to my dismay I found;
That halfway up I met the bloody barrel coming down.

Well the barrel broke me shoulder as to the ground it sped,
And when I reached the top I banged the pulley with me head.
But I clung on tightly, numb with shock from this almighty blow,
While the barrel spilled out half its bricks some 14 floors below.

Well, when those bricks had fallen from the barrel to the floor,
I then outweighed the barrel and so started down once more.
But I clung on tightly to the rope, my body wracked with pain,
And Halfway Down I Met The Bloody barrel Once Again

Now the force of this collision halfway down the office block,
Caused multiple abrasions and a nasty case of shock.
But I clung on tightly to the rope as I fell towards the ground,
And I landed on the broken bricks the barrel had scattered 'round.

Now as I lay there on the ground I thought I'd passed the worst,
But the barrel hit the pulley wheel, and then the bottom burst.
A shower of bricks rained down on me, I didn't have a hope,
As I lay there bleeding on the ground, I let go the bloody rope.

The barrel now being heavier, so started down once more,
It landed right across me as I lay there on the floor.
It broke 3 ribs and my left arm, and I can only say;
I hope you'll understand why I am not at work today.