**The Red Poppy**

Music and lyrics by Charles de Lint

**INTRO: 1 2 / 1 2 / [G] / [G]**

I was **[G]** just about your age, kid, when they **[C]** shipped me overseas

I had a **[D]** duffle bag, to lean against, and a **[C]** rifle between my **[G]** knees

I **[G]** was so scared as we crossed the sea, that I’d **[C]** never come back home

But **[D]** since I did, now I’m scared, of **[C]** being all a-**[G]**lone **[G]**

Why **[G]** don’t you buy me a beer, kid, and **[C]** sit with me a spell

I **[D]** promise I won’t bend your ear, with the **[C]** stories I could **[G]** tell

About the **[G]** things we saw and the things we did and **[C]** how they won’t leave me

We’ll just **[D]** raise our bottles, in a toast, to their **[C]** loving memo-**[G]**ry **[G]**

Because this **[D]** poppy that I wear, I don’t **[C]** wear it for my-**[G]**self

I **[D]** wear it to remember, those **[C]** friends I left in **[G]** hell

I **[G]** never understood, **[C]** how it’d come to be

That **[D]** those boys died, and I come home to **[C]** wear the red pop-**[G]**py **[G]**

**INSTRUMENTAL VERSE:**

Why **[G]** don’t you buy me a beer, kid, and **[C]** sit with me a spell

I **[D]** promise I won’t bend your ear, with the **[C]** stories I could **[G]** tell

About the **[G]** things we saw and the things we did, and **[C]** how they won’t leave me

We’ll just **[D]** raise our bottles in a toast, to their **[C]** loving memo-**[G]**ry **[G]**

Yeah I’m **[G]** here in the Legion Hall, **[C]** pretty much every night

It’s **[D]** awful quiet at my place, I can’t **[C]** sleep without a **[G]** light

I **[G]** know it all happened long ago, in those **[C]** lands across the sea

But when I **[D]** close my eyes, in the dark, it’s like **[C]** yesterday to **[G]** me **[G]**

And this **[D]** poppy that I wear, I don’t **[C]** wear it for my-**[G]**self

I **[D]** wear it to remember, those **[C]** friends I left in **[G]** hell

I **[G]** never understood, **[C]** how it came to be

That **[D]** those boys died, and I come home to **[C]** wear the red pop-**[G]**py

Yeah I **[G]** never understood, **[C]** how it came to be

That **[D]** those boys died, and I come home to **[C]** wear the red pop-**[G]**py

I **[G]** never understood, **[C]** how it came to be

That **[D]** those boys died, and I come home to **[C]** wear the red pop-**[G]↓**py

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