

ROCKAWAY, LOVELY ROCKAWAY

(for Pat O'Brien)

COME [A] KIND HEARTED [D] FRIENDS, IF YOU'LL [A] LISTEN,
I'LL [D] GIVE YOU SOME [BM] VERSES OF [E] SONG
MAYBE [A] TWO, MAYBE [D] TEN, MAYBE [A] TWENTY
BUT THEY [D] REALLY WILL [BM] NOT KEEP YOU [E] LONG
FOR I'LL [BM] SING FROM MY [D] HEART'S FONDEST [A] MEM'RY
OF A [BM] PLACE THAT I'LL [D] ALWAYS HOLD [E] DEAR
WHERE I [BM] SPENT MY FIRST [D] NIGHT IN [A] AMERICA
NINE- [D] TEEN FIFTY [BM] SEVEN THE [E] YEAR

*IT [D] WASN'T THE [E] BRONX OR MAN- [A] HATTAN
NOT [F#M] CHICAGO OR [C#] BOSTON FOR [D] ME
WHEN MY [F#M] UNCLE SAID
[C#] "PAT, I HAVE [D] FOUND YOU A [A] FLAT
IN FAR [A] ROCKAWAY [D] DOWN BY THE [A] SEA
LOVELY [A] ROCKAWAY [E] DOWN BY THE [A] SEA..."*

I MUST SAY I SETTLED IN QUICKLY
'T WAS ALMOST LIKE BEING AT HOME
THERE WERE COLLEENS AND PUBS FILLED WITH MUSIC
AND I HAD NO DESIRE TO ROAM
ON A CLEAR DAY YOU'D SEE IN THE DISTANCE
THE SPIRES OF MANHATTAN SO TALL
THE OLD TRAIN RIDE WAS ONLY A QUARTER
BUT WHY SPEND THE MONEY AT ALL?

THERE WERE LADS THERE FROM CORK AND FROM DUBLIN
FROM GALWAY AND SLIGO LIKE ME
THERE WERE SAINTS, THERE WERE DRUNKS,
THERE WERE ANGELS AND PUNKS
IN THAT CRAZY PLACE DOWN BY THE SEA
FOR A DOLLAR YOU'D GET TO HEAR DANCE BANDS
THE MCNULTYS AND MORRISSEYS TOO
YOU COULD SPLASH IN THE WAVES OF THE OCEAN
WHEN YOUR WEEK OF HARD LABOR WAS THROUGH

BUT TIME WILL OF COURSE BRING ITS CHANGES
NOT MUCH THERE THAT I'D RECOGNIZE
THE PUBS ARE ALL GONE, THE OLD CROWD HAS MOVED ON
AND THE THOUGHT BRINGS A TEARS TO MY EYES
NO MORE THE SWEET ACCENTS OF IRELAND
IN THE VOICES OF CHILDREN AT PLAY
BUT THE ROCKAWAY ANGELS ARE WATCHING
AND I KNOW THAT THEY THINK IT'S OKAY!