

# The Quest

Words: Rudyard Kipling

Music: Leslie Fish

The Knight came home from the quest, Mud - died and sore he came,  
Fighting we take no shame. Bet - ter is man for a fall.  
Bat - tered of shield and crest, Ban - ner - less, bruised, and lame.  
Mer - ri - ly borne, the bugle horn An - swered the war - der's call:

*CHORUS*

"Here is my lance to mend Here is my horse to be shot! Ay, they were strong, and the fight it was long;  
But I paid as good as I got!" ("I paid as good as I got!")

The Knight came home from the quest,  
Muddied and sore he came,  
Battered of shield and crest,  
Bannerless, bruised, and lame.  
Fighting we take no shame.  
Better is man for a fall.  
Merrily borne, the bugle-horn  
Answered the warder's call: -

*"Here is my lance to mend (Haro!)  
Here is my horse to be shot!  
Ay, they were strong, and the fight it was long;  
But I paid as good as I got!"  
("I paid as good as I got!")*

"Oh, dark and deep was their van,  
That mocked my battle-cry.  
I could not miss my man,  
But I could not carry by:  
Utterly whelmed was I,  
Flung under, horse and all."  
Merrily borne, the bugle-horn  
Answered the warder's call!

*"Here is my lance to mend (Haro!)  
Here is my horse to be shot!  
Ay, they were strong, and the fight it was long;  
But I paid as good as I got!"  
("I paid as good as I got!")*

My wounds are noised abroad,  
But theirs my foemen cloaked.  
Ye see my broken sword -  
But never the blades she broke;  
Paying them stroke for stroke,  
Good Handsel over all."  
Merrily borne, the bugle-horn  
Answered the warder's call!

*"Here is my lance to mend (Haro!)  
Here is my horse to be shot!  
Ay, they were strong, and the fight it was long;  
But I paid as good as I got!"  
("I paid as good as I got!")*

My shame ye count and know.  
Ye say my quest is vain.  
Ye have not seen my foe,  
Ye have not told his slain.  
Surely he fights again, again;  
But when ye prove his line.  
There shall come to your aid my broken blade  
In this last, lost, fight of mine!

*"Here is my lance to mend (Haro!)  
Here is my horse to be shot!  
Ay, they were strong, and the fight it was long;  
But I paid as good as I got!"  
("I paid as good as I got!")*