

# Three Days In July

## The Infamous Stringdusters

### Verse 1

I was born in Pennsylvania  
In 1851  
I grew up on my father's farm, the youngest of three  
sons  
The Civil War was raging the year that I turned 12  
My father joined the ranks of blue, left us by  
ourselves

Boys I tell you true, I learned things I never knew

In summer heat, we prayed for rain the first day of  
July  
The far of thunder rumbling, no storm clouds in the sky  
My brothers grabbed their rifles, said to my mother  
first  
Mamma that's the sounds of cannon up by Gettysburg

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### Verse 2

Two fearful days and sleepless nights  
We waited with no word  
Till the guns fell silent the morning of the third  
My mother watched the road all day and kept me there  
close by  
Till dusk was hard upon us and the water jug was dry

With bucket and a lantern, I crossed the field alone  
Heard the sound of snapping twigs and then a quiet moan  
Captured in my lantern light, his face in ashen grey  
Huddled in a bloody coat a rebel soldier lay

Boys I tell you true, I learned things I never knew

( break )

### Verse 3

"I see you have a kind face  
Please don't raise a cry  
If I'm taken prisoner  
I know I'll surely die"

"I'm wounded And I mean no harm  
I just need to rest a spell  
I have fled the battlefield  
I've seen the face of hell"

"We came by tens of thousands  
The battle for to lose  
We only marched on Gettysburg  
Because we needed shoes"

I looked down at his swollen feet  
And tried to understand  
And wondered if my brothers  
Had died at this man's hands

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( break )

Verse 4

I walked back in the cabin

Set the bucket down

I spoke no word to mother

Of why I'd been so long

All night we sat beside the fire

Praying for good news

Then mother, she looked down and asked

"Son, where are your shoes?"

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