

The Last Place

Words and Music by James Raffan & Paul Mills SOCAN

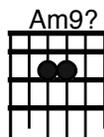
Key of Dm or Ebm (played in Am with capo @ 5th or 6th fret)

Verse 1

Am G
Willing hands make way near the end of spring
F E7
On the sun bright face of Temiskaming
Am G
This canoe, Lallemand, it was one of four
F E7
That took 31 souls off a rocky shore (extra bar?)
Am
On cold water

Verse 2

Work & pray, pray & serve was the school's strict code
Character's forged on a rocky road
Take your swats like a man, from a master's hand
Follow blind and you'll get you to the promised land (extra bar)
On cold water



Strum to bridge on

Bridge 1

C Bb
Seven hours, weigh up, one boy's had enough
F G
No one sees that the lake is getting real rough
C Bb
Get to work, Mama's boy, let's get on with it
F C E7
Twenty strokes off the shore the groups were all split

Verse 3

One blue canoe with the smallest of boys
Lagged in the wind and the waves and the noise
Calls for the others to wait unheard
A broadside hit (stop) and it's overturned
In cold water

Verse 4 (quietly?)

The other canoes turned around to help
But they pitched dumped in the growing swell
Panic-stricken heroes did the damndest things
Hymns were sung in Temiskaming's
Cold water

Into bridge on Am9 (or whatever that cord is)

Bridge 2

^C
Some couldn't swim but they calmed them down
^F ^{Bb}
A keyhole vest wouldn't let you drown
^C ^{Bb}
But in the spring of the year that's not the point
^F ^C ^{E7}
Because cold crept in to every ... every joint

Verse 5

When the day is done, eighteen survived
Asking on shore why they still are alive
Thirteen dead put their faith God
They didn't have chance against earthly odds

Coda

^C ^{Dm7}
We believed that adventure would do them no wrong
^{Dm} ^{Dm7} ^F ^G
That the risks of the wild would make our boys strong
^C ^{A7} ^{D7}
If they'd run to the morning they'd outstride the sun (2 beat pause?)
^{Dm} ^{Dm7} ^F ^G
And that's how it went until all came undone ...
^C ^{A7} ^{D7}
Yes this boat they call Lallemand is many things
^{Dm} ^{Dm7} ^F
A cradle, a crucible, a last place of peace ... (finish with G arpeggio, brief pause?)
^{Dm7} ^G ^{Dm7} ^G ^F ^G
Yes the last place, the last place, the last place (slowly come back to original tempo)
^F ^{E7} ^{Am}
Of innocent grace, on cold water

Verse 1 Reprise

^{Am} ^G
Willing hands make way near the end of spring
^F ^{E7}
On the sun bright face of Temiskaming
^{Am} ^G
This canoe, Lallemand, it was one of four (slow down)
^F ^{E7}
That took countless souls to a rocky shore
^{Am}
And Cold water