

Ship of Fools
The Grateful Dead
Time: 4/4
Tempo: 105
Key: Bb

Intro:

Cm F Bb
1234 1234 1234 1234

Verse 1:

Bb F Eb Edim Bb
Went to see the captain, strangest I could find,
Bb D7 Eb Cm F
Laid my proposition down, laid it on the line.
F Eb Bb Dm Cm
I won't slave for beggar's pay, likewise gold and jewels,
Eb Bb F Eb Bb
But I would slave to learn the way to sink your ship of fools.

Chorus:

F Eb Bb F Eb Gm
Ship of fools on a cruel sea, ship of fools sail away from me.
Gm Edim
It was later than I thought when I first believed you,
Cm F Eb Bb
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools.

Verse 2:

Bb F Eb Edim Bb
Saw your first ship sink and drown, from rockin' of the boat,
Bb D7 Eb Cm
And all that could not sink or swim was just left there to
F
float.
F Eb Bb Dm Cm
I won't leave you drifting down, but woh it makes me wild,
Eb Bb F Eb Bb
With thirty years upon my head to have you call me child.

Chorus:

F Eb Bb F Eb Gm
Ship of fools on a cruel sea, ship of fools sail away from me.
Gm Edim

It was later than I thought when I first believed you,
Cm F Eb Bb
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools.

Verse 3:

Bb F Eb Edim Bb
The bottles stand as empty, as they were filled before.
Bb D7 Eb Cm F
Time there was and plenty, but from that cup no more.
F Eb Bb Dm Cm
Though I could not caution all, I still might warn a few:
Eb Bb F Eb Bb
Don't lend your hand to raise no flag atop no ship of fools.

Chorus:

F Eb Bb F Eb Gm
Ship of fools on a cruel sea, ship of fools sail away from me.
Gm Edim

It was later than I thought when I first believed you,
Cm F Eb Bb
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools.

Gm Edim
It was later than I thought when I first believed you,
Cm F Eb Bb
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools.

Instrumental over verse chords, play once, then fade on 2nd time:

Bb F Eb Edim Bb D7 Eb Cm F Eb Bb
1234 12 34 1234 1234 12 34 1234 1234 1234 1234 12 34
Dm Cm Eb Bb F Eb Bb
1234 1234 1234 1234 12 34 1234