

COLD MISSOURI WATERS . . . James Keelaghan

Intro/bridge: Am, Am/B, C, D, Em

**(G)My name is Dodge,
But you (Em)know that
It's (C)written on the chart there
At the (G)foot end of the (D)bed**

**They (G)think I'm blind,
That I can't (Em)read it
But I've (C)read it every word
And every (G)word it says is (D)death**

**So, (Em)confession?
Is that the (C)reason that you (G)came?
Get it (Em)off my chest
Before I (C)check out of the (D)game**

**Since you (Em)mention it
Well, there's (C)thirteen things I'll (G)name
(Am)Thirteen (Am/B)crosses (C)high above
The (D)cold Missouri (Em)waters . . .**

**August 49
North Montana
The hottest day on record
And the forest tinder dry**

**Lightning strikes
In the mountains
I was crew chief at the jump base
I prepare the boys to fly**

**Pick the drop zone
C47 comes in low
Feel the tap
On your let that tells you go**

**See the circle
Of the fire down below
15 of us jumped above
The cold Missouri waters**

**Gauge the fire
I've seen bigger
So I ordered them to sidehill
And we'd fight it from below**

**We'd have our backs
To the river
We'd have it licked morning
And if we took it slow**

**But the fire crowned
Jumped the valley just ahead
There was no way down
Headed for the ridge instead
Too thick to fight it
We'd have to fight that slope instead
Flames one step behind
Above the cold Missouri waters**

**Sky turned red
Smoke was boilin'
200 yards to safety
Death was 50 yards behind
I don't know why
I just thought it
I struck a match to waste high grass
Runnin' out of time**

**Tired to tell them
Step into this fire I've set
We can't make it
This is the only chance you'll get
But they cursed me
Ran for the rocks above instead
I laid face down and prayed
Above the cold Missouri waters**

**And when I arose
Like a Phoenix
My world reduced to ashes
There were none but two survived
I stayed that night
And one day after
Carrying bodies to the river**

Wonderin' how I'd stayed alive

**Thirteen stations
Of the cross to mark their fall
I've had my say
I'll confess to nothing more
I'll join them now
Because they left me long before
13 crosses high above
The cold Missouri waters**

**13 crosses high above
The cold Missouri shore**

I've seen Richard perform this in "G" fingering in standard tuning with a capo (I believe) at the fourth fret. On the CD, however, I'm pretty sure, he does it in "C" fingering with the capo at the second fret. But I'll do it here in "G".

Note: the "Am/B" isn't really a chord, it's really a bass-line walk-up from the Am to the C, which means that on the 5th (A) string, you'll play it open (on the Am chord), pick the second fret (on the Am/B "chord"), then the third fret (on the C chord). As with most of my suggestions, it's a lot easier to do than to show. Trust me.