If the war goes on  

THE ROAD TO BASRAH

Solo 1 If the war goes on and the children die of hunger, and the
Men 2 If the war goes on and the truth is taken hostage, and new
Women 3 If the war goes on and the daily bread is terror, and the
Solo 4 If the war goes on and the rich increase their fortunes, and the
All 5 If the war goes on, will we close the doors to heaven? If the

old men weep, for the young men are no more, and the women learn how to
terrors lead to the need to euphemize; when the calls for peace are de-
voiceless poor take the road as refugees; when a nation’s pride des-tines
arms sales soar as new weapons are displayed; when a fertile field turns to
war goes on, will we breach the gates of hell? If the war goes on, will we

dance without a partner, who will keep the score?
clared unpatriotic, who’ll expose the lies?
millions to be homeless, who will heed their pleas?
man’s land tomorrow, who’ll approve such trade?
ever be forgiven? If the war goes on...

Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1997, revised November 2002
Music: John L. Bell, 1997
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