MARSEILLE, 1720 (in 3/4)

Am D The year it was seventeen twenty Em Am A city at peace at the shore Am Buzzing with traders and merchants Em With artisans, workers and more The sea brought ships full of riches E E4 The traders they bought and they sold The council of regents decided Am Em Am The poor folks did as they were told The council of regents decided Am Em Am The poor folks did as they were told

The city was safe behind bridges and walls
The people were feeling secure
No threat from outside was allowed to come in
No disease they had to endure
The rules they were strict and forbidding
The rules they were strictly enforced
Outside a disaster was looming
Inside, they prepared for the worst
Outside a disaster was looming
Inside, they prepared for the worst

A ship was entering the harbour
Full of riches prepared for the trade
But the merchants and crew on board of the ship
Were ordered to stay out and wait
No one was allowed to enter the city
until it was perfectly clear
That not one of them was carrying the plague
And the city had nothing to fear
That not one of them was carrying the plague
And the city had nothing to fear

So the merchant ships sailors they waited While the city, it waited as well But the city's own merchants were grumbling They wanted to buy and to sell The council of regents conceded The ship and its crew could come in The merchants were having the time of their life While death was about to begin The merchants were having the time of their life While death was about to begin

The plague, it entered the city
The plague did its work very well
What once was a place of contentment
Was quickly turned into hell
In order for some to make money
Protection was set cruelly aside
After the story was over and done with
Half of the city had died
After the story was over and done with
One hundred thousand had died
After the story was over and done with
One hundred thousand had died

Tekst en muziek: Peter Storm, 13 mei 2020

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Audio: https://yourlocalpirates.bandcamp.com/track/marseille-1720