

When I was a fair maid

When I was a fair maid a - bout se - ven - teen, I
 lis - ted in the na - vy_ for to serve the queen, I
 lis - ted in the na - vy_ a sai - lor lad to stand, for to
 hear the can - nons ratt - ling and the mu - sic so grand,
 and the mu - sic so grand and the mu - sic so grand,
 for to hear the can - nons ratt - ling and the mu - sic so grand.

- 2 Well, the | officer that | listed me was a | tall and handsome | man,
 He | said you'll make a | sailor, so | come along my | man,
 My | waist being tall and | slender, my | fingers long and | thin,
 And the | very soon they | learned me, I | soon exceeded | them.
 I soon exceeded them, I soon exceeded them,
 And the very soon they learned me, I soon exceeded them.
- 3 Well, they | sent me to | bed and they | sent me to | bunk,
 To | lie with a | sailor I | never was afraid,
 But | taking off my | blue coat sure it | often makes me | smile
 For to | think I was a | sailor and a | maiden all the | while.
- 4 Well, they | sent me up to | London | for to guard the | Tower,
 And I'm | sure I might be | there 'till my | very dying | hour,
 But a | lady fell in | love with me, I | told her I was a | maid,
 O she | went unto the | Captain and my | secret she be|trayed.
- 5 Well, the | Captain he came | up to me and he | asked if this was | so,
 Oh I | dare not, I | dare not, I | dare not say | no,
 It's a | pity we should | lose you, such a | sailor lad you | made,
 It's a | pity we should | lose you, such a | handsome young | maid.
- 6 So it's | fare thee well | Captain, you've | been so kind to | me
 And | likewise my | shipmates, I'm | sorry to part with | thee,
 But if | e'er the navy | needs a lad, a | sailor I'll re|main,
 I'll put | out my hat and | feathers and I'll | run the riggin' a|gain.
 |: And I'll run the riggin' again, :|
 I'll put out my hat and feathers and I'll run the riggin' again.

When I was a fair maid

1

When I was a fair maid
about seventeen,
I listed in the navy
for to serve the queen,
I listed in the navy
a sailor lad to stand,
For to hear the cannons rattling
and the music so grand.

Als ich ein hübsches Mädchen
um die 17 war,
meldete ich mich zur Kriegsmarine,
um der Königin zu dienen,

um ein Matrosen-Bursche zu sein,
um zu hören die Kanonen rattern
und die großartige Musik.

2

Well, the officer that listed me
was a tall and handsome man,
He said you'll make a sailor,
so come along my man,
My waist being tall and slender,
my fingers long and thin,
And the very soon they learned me,
I soon exceeded them.

Nun, der Offizier, der mich registrierte
war ein großer und stattlicher Mann,
er sagte, du wirst einen Seemann abgeben,
also komm mit, (mein) Mann;
meine Taille war hoch und schlank,
meine Finger lang und schmal,
und sobald sie mich (etwas) lehrten,
übertraf ich sie (alle).

3

Well, they sent me to bed
and they sent me to bunk,
To lie with a sailor
I never was afraid,
But taking off my blue coat
sure it often makes me smile
For to think I was a sailor
and a maiden all the while.

Nun, sie schickten mich zu Bett
und sie schickten mich in die Koje,
neben einem Seemann zu liegen
hatte ich nie Angst,
aber wenn ich meinen blauen Rock auszog
musste ich oft lächeln,
beim Gedanken, dass ich ein Seemann war
und ein Mädchen zugleich.

4

Well, they sent me up to London
for to guard the Tower,
And I'm sure I might be there
'till my very dying hour,
But a lady fell in love with me,
I told her I was a maid,
O she went unto the Captain
and my secret she betrayed.

Nun, sie schickten mich nach London,
um den Tower* zu bewachen,
und ich bin sicher, dass ich noch da wäre
gar bis zu meiner Sterbensstunde,
aber eine Dame verliebte sich in mich;
ich sagte ihr, dass ich ein Mädchen sei,
oh, sie ging zum Kapitän
und sie verriet mein Geheimnis.

5

Well, the Captain
he came up to me
and he asked if this was so,
Oh I dare not, I dare not,
I dare not say no.
It's a pity
we should lose you,
such a sailor lad
you made,
It's a pity we should lose you,
such a handsome young maid.

Nun, der Kapitän
kam her zu mir
und fragte mich, ob das so war,

ich wagte nicht nein zu sagen.
Es ist schade,
dass wir dich verlieren,
so einen Seemann
(wie) du warst,

so ein stattliches junges Mädchen.

6

So it's fare thee well Captain,
you've been so kind to me
And likewise my shipmates,
I'm sorry
to part with thee,
But if ever the navy
needs a lad,
a sailor I'll remain,
I'll put out
my hat and feathers
and I'll run the riggin' again.

Also lebe wohl Kapitän,
Sie sind sehr nett zu mir gewesen,
und auch meine Schiffskameraden,
es tut mir leid,
sie (*wörtl.* dich) zu verlassen,
aber wenn die Kriegsmarine jemals
einen Burschen braucht,
werde ich ein Seemann bleiben,
ich werde ablegen
meinen Hut und den Federbusch
und ich werde wieder ziehen
[die Takelage.

* *Tower*: Zitadelle im Osten Londons; Residenz der englischen Könige
bis zur Zeit Heinrich VII. (1485-1509); Staatsgefängnis bis 1820

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