

Wellerman (Capo 3)

Am
There once was a ship that put to sea
Dm Am
And the name of that ship was the Billy o' Tea
Am
The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down
E Am
Blow, me bully boys, blow (huh!)

[Chorus]

Am
She had not been two weeks from shore
Dm Am
When down on her a right whale bore
Am
The captain called all hands and swore
E Am
He'd take that whale in tow (huh!)

[Chorus]

Am
Before the boat had hit the water
Dm Am
The wha-ale's tail came up and caught her
Am
All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her
E Am
When she dived down below (huh!)

[Chorus]

Am
No line was cut, no whale was freed;
Dm Am
The Captain's mind was not on greed
Am
But he belonged to the whaleman's creed;
E Am
She took that ship in tow (huh!)

[Chorus]

Am
For forty days, or even more
Dm Am
The line went slack, then tight once more
Am
All boats were lost (there were only four)
E Am
But still that whale did go

[Chorus]

Am
As far as I've heard, the fight's still on;
Dm Am
The line's not cut and the whale's not gone
Am
The Wellerman makes his regular call
Dm Am
To encourage the Captain, crew, and all

[Chorus] x 2

[Chorus]

F C
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm Am
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F C
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
E Am
We'll take our leave and go