

The Wellerman

Em

There once was a ship that put to sea

Am

Em

And the name of the ship was the Billy o' Tea

Em

The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down

H7

Em

Blow, me bully boys, blow (huh!)

REFRAIN

Em

She had not been two weeks from shore

Am

Em

When down on her a right whale bore

Em

The captain called all hands and swore

H7

Em

He'd take that whale in tow (huh!)

REFRAIN

Em

Before the boat had hit the water

Am

Em

The whale's tail came up and caught her

Em

All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her

H7

Em

When she dived down below (huh!)

REFRAIN

REFRAIN

C

G

Soon may the Wellerman come

Am

Em

To bring us sugar and tea and rum

C

G

One day, when the tonguin' is done,

H7

Em

We'll take our leave and go

Em

No line was cut, no whale was freed;

Am

Em

The Captain's mind was not of greed

Em

But he belonged to the whaleman's creed;

H7

Em

She took the ship in tow (huh!)

REFRAIN

Em

For forty days, or even more

Am

Em

The line went slack, then tight once more

Em

All boats were lost (there were only four)

H7

Em

But still that whale did go

REFRAIN

Em

As far as I've heard, the fight's still on;

Am

Em

The line's not cut and the whale's not gone

Em

The Wellerman makes his regular call

H7

Em

To encourage the Captain, crew, and all

REFRAIN 2x

REFRAIN

C

G

Soon may the Wellerman come

Am

Em

To bring us sugar and tea and rum

C

G

One day, when the tonguin' is done,

H7

Em

We'll take our leave and go