A Sailor's Life



A sailor's life is a merry life: They rob young girls of their heart's delight, Leaving them behind to sigh and mourn: They never know when they will return.

Here's four and twenty in a row; My sweetheart cuts the brightest show. He's proper, tall, genteel withal, And if I don't have him I'll have none at all.

"O father, fetch me a little boat That I might on the ocean float, And every queen's ship that we pass by I'll make enquire for my sailor boy."

We had not sailed long upon the deep Before a queen's ship we chanced to meet. "You sailors all, come tell me true, Does my sweet Willam sail among your crew?" "Oh no, fair lady, he is not here, For he is drown-ed, we greatly fear. On yon green island as we passed by There we lost sight of your sailor boy."

She wrung her hands and she tore her hair. Much like a woman in great despair. Her little boat 'gainst a rock did run: "How can I live now my William is gone?"