Whale Song

If I had the wings of a gull me boys, I'd spread them and fly home I'd leave old Greenland's icy ground for of right whales there is none And the weather's rough and the winds do blow and there's little comfort here I'd sooner be snug in an Edinburg pub a-drinking of strong beer

Oh a man must be mad or want money bad to venture catching whales For he may be drowned when the whale turns around or his head be smashed by the tail

Though the work seems grand to the young green hand and his heart is high when he goes

In a very short burst you'll hear the curse and the cry of "There she blows"

Now there she blows again This fight is all insane It's time for mutiny To end this misery

So take me home where I belong I won't go on with sth. wrong Don't count on me and set me free It's time to end that misery

All hands on deck now for God's sake, move briskly if you can And you stumble on deck both dizzy and sick, and for the life you don't give a damn And high overhead the great fish sped and the mate gave the whale the iron And soon the blood in a purple flood from the spout whole comes a-flying

These trails we bear for nigh four years till the ship she points for home We're due for our toil a bonus on the oil and an equal share of the bone When we go to the agent to settle for the trip when we find we've cause to lament For we slaved away four years of our lives and earned about three pounds ten