

Sing, Haul, then Heave!

(and don't forget to breathe!)

Twenty Sea Shanties
Un-arranged



The Essential Words

Notes

Chorus words are printed in **bold.**

They repeat in the same place in each verse or after each verse as instructed.

They should be sung with gusto!

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No 1. The Big Bow Wow

An Off-watch Fo'c's'le Song

1.

From Portsmouth Harbour we set sail,
And the wind was blowin' a devil of a gale;
With our ring tails set abaft the mizzen peak,
And our Rule Britannia ploughin' up the deep.

Chorus

**With a big bow wow, Tow row row,
Fol dee rol dee ride all day.**

**With a big bow wow, Tow row row,
Fol dee rol dee ride all day.**

2.

Then up steps the captain from down below.
He looks aloft and he looks alow;
He looks alow and he looks aloft,
Sayin' coil those ropes, boys, fore and aft.

3.

Then down to his cabin he quickly crawls,
And unto the steward he loudly bawls;
"Go fetch me a drink that'll make me cough,
For it's better weather here than up aloft".

4.

While we poor sailors workin' on the deck,
With the blasted rain pourin' down our necks;
Not a drop of grog will he to us afford,
And he damns our eyes with ev'ry other word.

5.

Now there's just one thing we all do crave,
It's that he should have a watery grave;
So we'll chuck him down in a sun dark hole,
Where the sharks'll have his body and the devil
have his soul.

No 2. Blood Red Roses

Long Drag/Halliards

1.

Our boots and clothes are all in pawn!

Chorus

Go down, you blood red roses. Go down!

And its flamin' drafty 'round Cape Horn.

Chorus

Go down, you blood red roses. Go down!

Oh, you pinks and posies.

Go down, you blood red roses. Go down!

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

My dearest mother said to me,

"My dearest son, return from sea."

3.

Around Cape Horn we've got to go;

Around Cape Horn in the frost and snow.

4.

You've got your advance now to sea you'll go;
Just chase them whales through the frost and
snow.

5.

As growl you may, but go you must;
If you growl too much your head they'll bust.

6.

Around Cape Horn we've got to go;
For that is where those whale fish blow.

7.

Just one more kick and that will do;
For we're the boys to kick her through.

No 3. The Dead Horse

Pumps

1.

A poor old man came riding by.

Chorus

If they say so, and they hope so.

A poor old man came riding by,

Chorus

Oh poor old horse.

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

Says I, "Old man, Your horse will die."

Says I, "Old man, Your horse will die."

3.

And if he dies we'll tan his skin,

And if he don't die we will ride him again.

4.

He's as dead as a nail in the lamp-room door,
And he won't come worrying us no more.

5.

We'll use his hair to mend our sails,
And the iron of his shoes to make deck nails.

6.

We'll hoist him up to the fore yard-arm,
Where he won't do no sailor's harm.

7.

We'll drop him down with a long long roll,
Where the sharks will have his body, and the
devil have his soul!

No 4. Don't forget your old ship-mate
An Off-watch Fo'c's'le/Wardroom Song

1.

Safe and sound at home again,
Let the waters roar, Jack.
One more time with glad refrain,
Let the chorus soar, Jack.

Chorus

**Long we've tossed on the rollin' main,
Now we're safe ashore, Jack.
Don't forget yer old ship-mate,
Fal-dee ral-dee ral-dee ral-dee
Rye-eye-doe!**

2.

Since we sailed from Plymouth Sound,
Four years gone, or nigh, Jack.
Was there ever chummies now,
Such as you and I, Jack?

3.

Oftentimes have we laid out,
Toil nor danger fearin',
Tuggin' out the flappin' sail
To the weather earrin'.

4.

When the middle watch was on,
And the time went slow, boy,
Who could choose a rousin' stave,
Who like Jack or Joe, boy?

5.

But the best of friends must part,
Fair or foul the weather.
Hand yer flipper for a shake,
Now, a drink together.

No 5. Drunken Sailor

Stamp and Go/Hand over Hand

1.

What shall we do with the drunken sailor?

What shall we do with the drunken sailor?

What shall we do with the drunken sailor?

Early in the morning?

Chorus

Hooray and up she rises!

Hooray and up she rises!

Hooray and up she rises,

Early in the morning!

2.

Put him in the long boat 'til he's sober,

3.

Pull out the plug and wet him all over,

4

Put him in the scuppers with a hose-pipe on him,

5.

Heave him by the leg in a runnin' bowlin',

6.

Shave his belly with a rusty razor

7.

That's what we do with the drunken sailor

That's what we do with the drunken sailor

(getting slower and slower)

That's what we do with the drunken sailor *(pause)*

(and then back to speed)

Early in the morning! *(No final chorus.)*

No 6. Fire Marengo

Cotton Screwing Work Song

1.

Lift him up and carry him along.

Chorus

Fire Marengo, fire away!

Put him down where he belong.

Chorus

Fire Marengo, fire away!

Repeat Chorus after each line of verse.

2.

Ease him down and let him lay.

Screw him in and there he'll stay.

3.

Put him in his hole below.

Stay he must and then he'll go.

4.

When I get back to Liverpool Town.
I'll pass a line to Sally Brown.

5.

I'll haul her high and haul her low.
I'll bust her blocks and I'll make her go.

6.

Oh Sally, she's a pretty little craft,
Hot shot to the fore and a rounded aft.

7.

Oh screw the cart and screw him down,
Oh let's get the hell back to Liverpool town.

No 7. Haul Away Joe

Tacks and Sheets/Short Drag

1.

Way haul away!

We'll haul away the bowlin'.

Chorus

Way haul away!

We'll haul way Joe.

Way haul away!

The packet is a -rollin'.

Chorus

Way haul away!

We'll haul way Joe.

Repeat Chorus after each double line of verse.

2.

Geordie Charlton had a pig
and it was double jointed.

He took it to the blacksmith's shop
to get its trotters pointed.

3.

King Louis was the King of France
before the Revolution.

King Louis got his head cut off
which spoiled his Constitution.

4.

Oh when I was a little boy
and so my mother told me.

That if I did not kiss the girls
my lips would all go mouldy.

5.

Way haul away!
We'll hang and haul together.

Way haul away!
We haul for better weather.

No 8. Haul on the Bowlin'

Sheeting Home the Foresail/Short Drag

1.

Haul on the bowlin', our bully ship's a-rollin'.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

2.

Haul on the bowlin', Kitty is my darlin'.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

3.

Haul on the bowlin', Kitty lives in Liverpool.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

4.

Haul on the bowlin', the old man is a-growellin'.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

5.

Haul on the bowlin', so early in the mornin'.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

6.

Haul on the bowlin', it's a far cry to payday.

Chorus

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' Haul!

No 9. Heave Away, Me Johnny
Warping out of Harbour/Windlass

1.

There's some that's bound for New York Town
and some that's bound for France,

Chorus

**Heave away me Johnny,
heave a-way!**

And some that's bound for Bengal Bay
to teach them whales to dance.

Chorus

**Heave away me Johnny boy,
we're all bound to go!**

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

The pilot is awaiting for
the turning of the tide

And then me boys be gone again
with a good and westerly wind.

3.

Come all you hard working sailor lads
who round the Cape of Storm

Be sure your boots and oilskins on
or you'll wish you never was born

4.

Farewell to you, you Kingston girls,
farewell St Andrews dock.

If ever we'll return again,
we'll make your cradles rock.

No 10. John Kanaka
Long Drag / Halliards

1.

I thought I heard, the old man say.

Chorus

John Kanaka -naka tu -lai -ay!

Today, today is a holiday.

Chorus

John Kanaka -naka tu- lai -ay!

Tu-lai-ay, Oh!_____ (*Pause! Watch!*)

Tu -lai -ay!

John Kanaka -naka tu -lai -ay!

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

We'll work tomorrow, but not today.

For today, today is a holiday.

3.

We're outward bound for 'Frisco Bay.

We're outward bound at the break of day.

4.

We're bound away around Cape Horn,

Where you wish to God you'd never been born!

5.

We're outward bound from London Town,

Where all the girlyies they come down!

6.

And when we get to Cardiff Bay,

We'll pay off ship and draw our pay.

7.

So haul, oh haul, oh haul away,

O haul away, to make your pay!

No 11. Leave her Johnny

Pumps

1.

Oh the times was hard and the wages low,

Chorus

Leave her, Johnny, leave her,

And the grub was bad and the gales did blow.

Chorus

And it's time for us to leave her.

Chorus

Leave her, Johnny, leave her.

Oh, leave her, Johnny, leave her;

For the voyage is done

and the winds don't blow,

And it's time for us to leave her.

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

I thought I heard the Old Man say;
"You can go ashore & take your pay."

3.

Oh her stern was foul & the voyage was long.
And the winds was bad & the gales was strong.

4.

And we'll leave her tight and we'll leave her trim,
And heave the hungry packet in.

5.

Oh, leave her, Johnny, leave her with a grin,
For there's many a worser we've sailed in.

6.

And now it's time to say goodbye,
Leave her, Johnny, leave her;
For the Old Pier Head is drawin' nigh
And it's time for us to leave her.

Finish here - no final Chorus

No 12. Nelson's Blood

Stamp and Go/Brace the Yards

1.

Oh, a drop of Nelson's blood
would not do us any harm,

A drop of Nelson's blood
would not do us any harm,

A drop of Nelson's blood
would not do us any harm,

And we'll all hang on behind,

Chorus

And we'll roll the old chariot along

We'll roll the old chariot along

We'll roll the old chariot along

And we'll all hang on behin-d!

Repeat Chorus after each verse pattern

*It commonplace even to join in from line 2 in
each verse*

2. We'll be alright if the wind is in our sails,
3. We'll be alright if we make it round The Horn,
4. Oh, a night at the circus would not do us any harm,
5. Oh, a sail round the Gulf would not do us any harm,
6. Oh, a nice cup of tea would not do us any harm,
7. Oh, a drop of Nelson's blood would not do us any harm,

You are encouraged to make up verses as this shanty is sung; but note that verse 7 is always the last verse

No 13. Old Billy Riley

Fast Pulling Halliards

1.

Old Billy Riley was a dancing master.

Chorus **Old Billy Riley O!**

Old Billy Riley, Walk him up so cheer'ly,

Chorus **Old Billy Riley O!**

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2

Old Billy Riley's Master of a drogher.

Old Billy Riley, Walk him up so cheer'ly,

3

Oh Billy Riley wed the captain's daughter.

Old Billy Riley, Walk him up so cheer'ly,

4

Old Misses Riley didn't like the sailors.

Old Billy Riley, Walk him up so cheer'ly

No 14. Paddy Doyle's Boots

Bunt Shanty

(There is no shanty-man; everybody join in
and repeat each verse twice!)

1.

**To my way ay-ay-ya,
We'll pay Paddy Doyle for his boots.**

2.

**To my way ay-ay-ya,
And we will drink whiskey and gin.**

3.

**To my way ay-ay-ya,
And we will shave under his chin.**

4.

**To my way ay-ay-ya,
And we will throw mud at the cook.**

5.

**To my way ay-ay-ya,
We'll pay Paddy Doyle for his boots.**

No 15. Randy Dandy O!
Heaving the Anchor/Windlass

1

Now we are ready to head for the Horn;

Chorus

Way hey, roll and go!

Our boots and our clothes, boys,
are all in the pawn.

Chorus

To me rollickin' Randy Dandy-O!

Chorus

Heave a pawl, oh heave away,

Way hey, roll and go!

The anchor's on board

and the cable's all stored,

To me rollickin' Randy Dandy-O!

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

Man the stout capstan and heave with a will;
But soon we'll be drivin' her way down the hill.

3.

Soon we'll be warpin' her out through the locks;
Where pretty young girls all come down in their
frocks.

4.

Roust her up, bullies, the wind's drawin' free;
Let's get the glad rags on and drive her to sea.

5.

We're outward bound for Vallipo Bay;
Get crackin' my lads, it's a hell of a way.

No 16. Reuben Ranzo
Top Gallant Halliards

1

Oh, poor old Reuben Ranzo;

Ranzo, me boys, Ranzo!

Oh, poor old Reuben Ranzo.

Ranzo, me boys, Ranzo!

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

Oh, Ranzo was no sailor;

He shipped aboard a whaler.

3.

Oh, Ranzo was no beauty;

He could not do his duty.

4.

So, they gave him nine and thirty;

Yes, lashes nine and thirty.

5.

Oh, the captain was a good man;
He took him to his cabin.

6.

Oh, he gave him wine and water;
Rube kissed the captain's daughter.

7.

He taught him navigation;
To fit him for his station.

8.

Now, Ranzo, he's a sailor;
The chief mate of that whaler.

9.

He married the captain's daughter;
And sails no more the water.

No 17. Rolling Down to Old Maui
An Off-watch Song

1.

It's a damn tough life, full of toil and strife,
we whaler-men undergo,
And we won't give a damn when the gales are
done, how hard the winds did blow,
For we're homeward bound from the Arctic
ground with a good ship, taut and free,
And we won't give a damn when we drink our
rum with the girls from Old Maui.

Chorus

**Rolling down to Old Maui, (me boys,)
rolling down to Old Maui,
We're homeward bound from the Arctic
ground, rolling down to Old Maui.**

Repeat Chorus after each verse

2. Once more we sail with the northerly gales
through the ice and wind and rain,
Them coconut fronds, them tropical shores,

we soon shall see again.
Six hellish months we've passed away
on the cold Kamchatka sea,
But now we're bound from the Arctic ground,
rolling down to Old Maui.

3. Once more we sail with the northerly gales
towards our island home.
Our whaling done, our mainmast sprung,
and we ain't got far to roam;
Our stun'l's bones is carried away,
what care we for that sound,
A living gale is after us, thank God,
we're homeward bound.

4. How soft the breeze through the island trees,
now the ice is far astern.
Them native maids, them tropical glades
is awaiting our return;
Even now their big brown eyes look out,
hoping some fine day to see
our baggy sails, running 'fore the gales,
rolling down to Old Maui.

No 18. Sally Brown

Heaving the Anchor/Windlass

1.

Oh Sally Brown is a nice young lady,

Chorus

Way, hey, roll and go,

And we roll all night,

and we roll till day;

To spend my money with Sally Brown.

Repeat Chorus after each verse

2.

She's tall and dark, but not too shady.

3,

Her mother doesn't like no tarry sailors.

4,

She wants her to marry a one-legged captain.

5.

Oh Sally wouldn't wed me so I shipped across
the water.

6.

And now I'm courting Sally's daughter.

7.

I shipped on board of a Liverpool liner.

No 19. Sally Racket

Top Sail Halliards/Catting the Anchor

1.

Little Sally Racket,

Chorus Haul him away!

She pawned my newest jacket,

Chorus Haul him away!

And she lost the ticket.

Chorus Haul him away!

With a hauley high-low!

Chorus Haul him away!

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

Little Kitty Carson,

She got off with the parson.

Got a little barson.

With a hauley high-low!

3.

Little Betty Baker,
She ran off with a Quaker.
Guess her mum could shake her.
With a hauley high-low!

4.

Little Nancy Dawson,
She got a silly notion,
Fell for a poor old bosun.
With a hauley high-low!

5.

Little Dolly Ducket,
She washes in a bucket,
A girl but doesn't look it.
With a hauley high-low!

6.

Little Sally Racket,
She tore her brand new jacket,
And never did regret it.
With a hauley high-low!

No 20. Shenandoah
Capstan /Windlass

1.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you.

Chorus

Away you rolling river.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you.

Chorus

Away, I'm bound to go

'Cross the wide Missouri.

Repeat Chorus pattern in each verse.

2.

Oh Shenandoah, I love your daughter.

Oh Shenandoah, I love your daughter.

3.

'Tis sev'n long years since last I see thee.

'Tis sev'n long years since last I see thee.

4.

Oh Shenandoah, I took a notion.
To sail across the stormy ocean.

5.

Oh Shenandoah, I'm bound to leave you.
Oh Shenandoah, I'll not deceive you.

6.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you,

Away you rolling river

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you,

Away, I'm bound to go

'Cross the wide Missouri.

repeat last phrase

'Cross the wide Missouri.

