

The Wellerman

Sea Shanty

Am 5 1 3 5-4-3-2 Dm 3 1 Am 3 5 2

There once was a ship that put to sea, the name of the ship was the Billy o'Tea, the

Detailed description: This system contains the first five measures of the piece. The treble clef staff has a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to F4, then E4, and has a triplet of D4, C4, B3. The bass clef staff provides a simple accompaniment with notes G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Chords are indicated above the staff: Am (measures 1-2), Dm (measures 3-4), and Am (measures 5-6). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5.

6 E Am

6 winds blew hard, her bow dipped down, Oh, blow, me bul-ly boys, blow (Huh!)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 6-8. The treble clef staff continues the melody from measure 5. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chords are E (measure 6) and Am (measures 7-8). Measure 8 ends with a double bar line.

10 F C Dm Am

10 Soon may the Well-er-man come to bring us su-gar and tea and rum.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9-12. The treble clef staff continues the melody. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chords are F (measure 9), C (measure 10), Dm (measure 11), and Am (measure 12). Measure 12 ends with a double bar line.

The Wellerman

14 F C E Am

14 One day, when the ton-guin' is done We'll take our leave and go!

She had not been two weeks from shore, when down on her a right whale bore
 The captain called all hands and swore, He'd take that whale in tow (Huh!)
 Chorus

Before the boat had hit the water, The whale's tail came up and caught her
 All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her, When she dived down below (Huh!)
 Chorus

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

For forty days, or even more, the line went slack, then tight once more
 All boats were lost, there were only four, but still that whale did go (Huh!)
 Chorus

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