

The Wellerman

Sea Shanty

Musical notation for the first system of 'The Wellerman'. The piece is in 4/4 time. The first staff is the treble clef, and the second is the bass clef. The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note G4 (labeled '5'), followed by quarter notes A4 (labeled '1'), B4 (labeled '3'), C5 (labeled '5'), D5 (labeled '4'), E5 (labeled '3'), and F5 (labeled '2'). The first measure has a 'Dm' chord above it. The second measure has a 'Gm' chord above it. The third measure has a 'Dm' chord above it. The lyrics 'There once was a ship that put to sea, the name of the ship was the Billy o'Tea, the' are written below the treble clef staff.

Musical notation for the second system of 'The Wellerman'. The first staff is the treble clef, and the second is the bass clef. The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, and F5. The first measure has a '6' above it. The second measure has an 'A' chord above it. The third measure has a 'Dm' chord above it. The lyrics 'winds blew hard, her bow dipped down, Oh, blow, me bul-ly boys, blow (Huh!)' are written below the treble clef staff.

Musical notation for the third system of 'The Wellerman'. The first staff is the treble clef, and the second is the bass clef. The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note G4 (labeled '10'), followed by quarter notes F4 (labeled 'Bb'), E4 (labeled 'F'), D4 (labeled 'Gm'), C4 (labeled 'Dm'), B3, and A3. The first measure has a '10' above it. The second measure has a 'Bb' chord above it. The third measure has a 'F' chord above it. The fourth measure has a 'Gm' chord above it. The fifth measure has a 'Dm' chord above it. The lyrics 'Soon may the Well-er-man come to bring us su-gar and tea and rum.' are written below the treble clef staff.

The Wellerman

14 B \flat F A Dm

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