

The Mermaid

Words & music: Traditional
Performed by Makem & Clancy

G **C** **G**
It was on a Friday morn when we set sail

C **D** **G**
And we were not far from the land

C **G**
When our captain he spied a mermaid so fair

C **D** **G**
With a comb and a glass in her hand

G
CHORUS: And the ocean waves do roll

D
And the stormy winds do blow

G **C** **G**
And we poor sailors are skipping at the top

C **D** **G** **Em**
While the land-lubbers lie down below, below, below

C **D** **G**
While the land-lubbers lie down below

G **C** **G**
Then up spoke the captain of our gallant ship

C **D** **G**
And a fine spoken man was he

C **G**
“This fishy mermaid has warned me of our doom—

C **D** **G**
We shall sink to the bottom of the sea!”

CHORUS

G **C** **G**
Then up spoke the cabin boy of our gallant ship

C **D** **G**
And a fine spoken lad was he

C **G**
“I have a sweetheart in Portland by the sea

C **D** **G**
But tonight she’ll be weeping for me!”

CHORUS

G **C** **G**
Then up spoke the cook of our gallant ship

C **D** **G**
And a crazy old butcher was he

C **G**
“I care much more for my pots and my pans

C **D** **G**
Than I do for the bottom of the sea!”

CHORUS

G **C** **G**
Then three times around spun our gallant ship

C **D** **G**
And three times around spun she

C **G**
Three times around spun our gallant ship

C **D** **G**
And she sank to the bottom of the sea

CHORUS

The Mermaid

Trad. arr. Peter McLaren

Verse

It was on a Fri - day morn when we set sail And we
 were not far from the land When our
 cap - tain he spied a mer - maid so fair With a
 comb and a glass in her hand.

Chorus

And the o - cean waves do roll And the
 storm - y winds do blow And
 we poor sail - ors are skip - ping at the top While the
 land lub - bers lie down be - low, be - low, be - low While the
 land lub - bers lie down be - low.

2-4. Then up spoke the captain* of our gallant ship [* Verses 3 & 4: cabin boy/cook]

And a fine spoken man was he
 "This fishy mermaid has warned me of our doom—
 We shall sink to the bottom of the sea!"

CHORUS

5. Then three times around spun our gallant ship
 And three times around spun she
 T three times around spun our gallant ship
 And she sank to the bottom of the sea

CHORUS