Sailor Boy

Cara Dillon

It was early, early all in the spring When my love Willie went to serve the king The night being dark and the wind blew high Which parted me from my sailor boy

Oh father, father, build me a boat For on the ocean I mean to float To watch the big ships as they pass by For I might inquire of my sailor boy

She had not sailed there for a week or two When she spied the captain and all his crew Oh Captain, Captain, come tell me true Does my love Willie sail on board with you

Oh fair maid, fair maid, he is not here He's lost or drowned, that I am afraid On you green island as we passed by T'was there we lost our fine sailor boy

She wrung her hands and she tore her hair Just like a lady in deep despair
She called for paper, both pen and ink
And every line she did drop a tear
And every word she calls Willie near

Oh father, father, dig me a grave
Go dig it long and go dig it wide
Place marble stone at my head and feet
That the world may know that I died in grief