

She was nine years old, I took her out on the boat  
Broke out the tackle box and started to troll  
One hit the line and she reeled it right in  
Then she did it again and again  
With an innocent grin she looked up at me asking  
Dad, why they call it fishin'  
Not catchin'

I said sometimes you hook em  
Sometimes you don't  
Some days they almost jump in the boat  
Some of them are keepers  
Some you throw back  
Baby girl, life is like that  
You just gotta keep on castin' and wishin'  
That's why they call it fishin'

Ten years later she was out on her own  
Came home from college with her heart broke  
One pretty spring day we were out on the water  
Just having a talk, father and daughter  
And I said, do you remember back when you were asking  
This is why they call it fishin'  
Not catchin'

I said sometimes you hook em  
Sometimes you don't  
Some days they almost jump in the boat  
Some of them are keepers  
Some you throw back  
Baby girl, life is like that  
You just gotta keep on castin' and wishin'  
That's why they call it fishin'

Now she's married, got a kid  
Takes her fishing like I did  
Now when she looks up at her askin'  
Momma, why they call it fishin' and not catchin'

She said sometimes you hook em  
Sometimes you don't  
Some days they almost jump in the boat  
Some are keepers  
Some you throw back  
Baby girl, life is like that  
You just gotta keep on castin' and wishin'  
Yeah, you just gotta keep on castin' and wishin'  
And that's why they call it fishin'  
That's why they call it fishin'