

Black Velvet Band

The Irish Rovers

Her eyes they shone like the diamonds
You'd think she was queen of the land
And her hair hung over her shoulders
Tied up with a black velvet band

In a neat little town they called Belfast
Apprentice to trade I was bound
And many an hour o' sweet happiness
I spent in that neat little town
'Til bad misfortune came o'er me
That caused me to stray from the land
Far away from me friends and relations
To follow the black velvet band

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Well, I went out strolling one evening
Not meaning to go very far
When I met with a fickle dame
She was sellin' her trade in the bar
When a watch she took from a customer
And slipped it right into my hand
Then the law came and put me in prison
Bad luck to her black velvet band

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Next morning before judge and jury
For trial I had to appear
Then the judge he says me young fellow
The case against you is quite clear
And seven long years is your sentence
You're goin' to Van Dieman's land
Far away from your friends and relations
To follow the black velvet band

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So come all ye jolly young fellows
I'll have you take warnin' by me
And when ever you're out on the liquor, me lads
Beware of the pretty colleens
For they'll fill you with whisky and porter
'Til you are not able to stand
And the very next thing that you know, me lads
You've landed in Van Dieman's land

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