

Am  
There once was a ship that put to sea,  
Dm Am  
And the name of that ship was the Billy O' Tea,  
Am  
The winds blew up, her bow dipped down,  
E Am  
Blow my bully boys blow (Huh!)

**CHORUS**

F C  
Soon may the Wellerman come,  
Dm Am  
To bring us sugar and tea and rum,  
F C  
One day when the tonguin' is done,  
E Am  
We'll take our leave and go.

*End with Am/*

Am  
She'd not been two weeks from shore,  
Dm Am  
When down on her a right whale bore.  
Am  
The captain called all hands and swore,  
E Am  
He'd take that whale in tow (Huh!)

*Chorus then. . .*

Am  
Before the boat had hit the water,  
Dm Am  
The whale's tail came up and caught her.

Am  
All hands to the side harpooned and fought her,  
E Am  
When she dived down low (Huh!)  
*Chorus then. . .*

Am  
No line was cut, no whale was freed,  
Dm Am  
The captain's mind was not of greed,  
Am  
And he belonged to the whaleman's creed.

E Am  
She took that ship in tow (Huh!)  
*Chorus then. . .*

Am  
For forty days or even more  
Dm Am  
The line went slack, then tight once more.  
Am  
All boats were lost there were only four

E Am  
But still that whale did go.  
*Chorus then. . .*

Am  
As far as I've heard the fight's still on;  
Dm Am  
The line's not cut and the whale's not gone  
Am  
The Wellerman makes his regular call

E Am  
To encourage the captain crew and all.  
*Chorus x 2*