

# Irish Song Lyrics

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## IF I WAS A BLACKBIRD

I am a young sailor, my story is sad  
For once I was carefree and a bold sailor lad  
I courted a lassie by night and by day  
But now she has left me and gone far away

CHO: Oh if I was a blackbird, could whistle and sing  
I'd follow the vessel my true love sails in  
And in the top rigging I would there build my nest  
And I'd flutter my wings o'er her lily-white breast

Or if I was a scholar and could handle a pen  
One secret love letter to my true love I'd send  
And I'd tell of my sorrow, my grief and my pain  
Since she's gone and left me in yon flowery glen

I sailed o'er the ocean, my fortune to seek  
Though I missed her caress and her kiss on my cheek  
I returned and I told her my love was still warm  
But she turned away lightly and great was her scorn

I offered to take her to Donnybrook Fair  
And to buy her fine ribbons to tie up her hair  
I offered to marry and to stay by her side  
But she said in the morning she sailed with the tide

My parents they chide me, and will not agree  
Saying that me and my false love married should never be  
Ah but let them deprive me, or let them do what they will  
While there's breath in my body, she's the one that I love still

Recorded by Andy Stewart