

Come all you bold fishermen
Song of the Fishes

Come all you bold fishermen, listen to me,
While I sing to you a song of the sea.

Chorus:

Then blow ye winds westerly, westerly blow,
We're bound to the southward, so steady we go.

2. First comes the blue-fish a-wagging his tail,
He come up on the deck and yells: "All hands make sail!"

Chorus:

3. Next comes the eels, with their nimble tails,
They jumped up aloft and loosed all the sails.

Chorus:

4. Next come the herrings, with their little tails,
The manned sheets and halliards and set all the sails.

Chorus:

5. Next comes the porpoise, with his short snout,
He jumps on the bridge and yells: "Ready, about!"

Chorus:

6. Next comes the swordfish, the scourge of the sea,
The order he gives is "Helm's a-lee!"

Chorus:

7. Then comes the turbot, as red as a beet,
He shouts from the bridge: "Stick out that foresheet!"

Chorus:

8. Having accomplished these wonderful feats,
The blackfish sings out next to: "Rise tacks and sheet!"

Chorus:

9. Next comes the whale, the largest of all,
Singing out from the bridge: "Haul taut, mainsail, haul!"

Chorus:

10. Then comes the mackerel, with his striped back,
He flopped on the bridge and yelled: "Board the main tack!"

Chorus:

11. Next comes the sprat, the smallest of all,
He sings out: "Haul well taut, let go and haul!"

Chorus:

12. Then comes the catfish, with his chuckle had,
Out in the main chains for a heave of the lead.

Chorus:

13. Next comes the flounder, quite fresh from the ground,
Crying: "Damn your eyes, chucklehead, mind where you sound!"

Chorus:

14. Along came a dolphin, flapping his tail,
He yelled to the boatswain to reef the foresail.

Chorus:

15. Along came the shark, with his three rows of teeth,
He flops on the foreyard and takes a snug reef.

Chorus:

16. Up jumps the fisherman, stalwart and grim,
And with his big net he scooped them all in.

Chorus :