

## The Mermaid Song

When I was a lad in a fishing town  
My old man said to me:  
"You can spend your life, your jolly life  
Sailing on the sea.  
You can search the world for pretty girls  
Til your eyes grow weak and dim,  
But don't go fishing for a mermaid, son  
If you don't know how to swim"

'Cause her hair was green as seaweed  
Her skin was blue and pale  
I loved that girl with all my heart  
I only liked the upper part  
I did not like the tail

So I signed aboard of a whaling ship  
And my first very day at sea  
There I spied in the waves,  
Reaching out for me  
"Come live with me in the sea said she,  
Down on the ocean floor  
And I'll show you many's a wonderous thing  
That you've never seen before

So over I jumped and she pulled me down,  
Down to her seaweed bed  
A pillow made of tortoise-shell  
She placed beneath my head  
She fed me shrimp and caviar  
Upon a silver dish  
From her head to her waist was just to my taste  
But the rest of her was a fish

'Cause ...

Then one day, she swam away  
So I sang to the clams and the whales  
"Oh, how I miss her seagreen hair  
And the silvery shine of her scales  
Then her sister, she swam by  
And set my heart awhirl  
From her head to her waste was an ugly fish  
But the rest of her was a girl

'Cause her hair was green as seaweed  
Her skin was blue and pale  
I loved that girl with all my heart  
I did not like the upper part  
And that's how I get my ...