

Female Rambling Sailor

Trad.

Played by Bob Dylan six times in 1992

C/g /a C F C G
 ..near Gravesend there lived a maid she was so neat and pretty

G Dmadd9/f
 Come all you maids, both near and far,

G F
 and listen to my ditty

C/g /a C
 'Twas near Gravesend there lived a maid
 F C G C/g G
 She was so neat and pretty.

Dmadd9/f G C
 Her true love he was pressed away
 Csus4 C G F
 And drowned in some foreign sea
 C/g /a C
 Which caused this fair maid to say
 G C/g G
 'I'll be a rambling sailor.'

With trousers blue and jacket white
 Just like a sailor neat and tight
 The sea it was the heart's delight
 Of the female rambling sailor.
 From stem to stern she freely goes
 She braves all dangers, fears no foes
 But soon you shall hear of the overthrow
 Of the female rambling sailor

Never did her courage fail
 Through stormy seas and wintery gale
 Always did this fair maid prevail
 This female rambling sailor.
 From stem to stern she freely went
 Where oft-times she'd been many
 Her hand did slip and down she fell
 She calmly bade this world farewell.

When her lily-white breast in sight it came
 It appeared to be a female's frame
 Rebecca Young it was the name
 Of the female rambling sailor.
 May the willows wave around her grave
 And round the laurels planted
 May the roses sweet grow at her feet
 Of the one who was undaunted.

So, come all you maids, both near and far
 And listen to my story
 Her body is anchored in the ground
 Let's hope her soul's in glory. *
 From the river Thames she's known quite well
 No sailor there could her excel
 Let one tear fall as a last farewell
 To the female rambling sailor.