

Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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Ballad of John Williams

Ballad of John Williams
(Johnny McEvoy?)

When last I saw John Williams, a young man full of pride
His lovely bride of just four days was standing by his side
He smiled and took me by the hand, saying "Boyo can't you see
I've seen the last of windswept bogs and bogs the last of me!
And the peelers and the landlords and the risings of the moon
And if ever I return again, 'twill be too bloody soon"

CHO: Rich man , poor man, beggar man, wife
Sailed away into the night
Where they'll wind up no-one knows
Round and round the story goes

He said "I'll go and take my chance in far off New York Town
For they say there's lots of work there and a good man's not put down
And with my lassie by my side we'll build a better home
And when the sea trip's over lads we never more will roam"
So we said farewell upon the quay, there was nothing left to do
But to pray for John and his lovely bride, that their dreams
might all come true

How I envied you, John Williams, and your lovely fair haired bride
To be sailing on that mighty ship across the ocean wide
For she's the finest liner, that was ever built by man
And they say there's naught can sink her, no not even God's own hand
Man's pride can be his own downfall, that big ship sailed form home
And I thought I heard the banshee cry, and it chilled me to the bone

CHO: Rich man , poor man, beggar man, wife
Sailed away into the night
Where they'll wind up no-one knows
Round and round the story goes
Round and around the icebergs flow.

MR
apr97