

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Frankie's Trade

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Old Horn to All Atlantic said:

(O-hay O! To me O!)

Now where did Frankie learn his trade?

For he ran me down with three reef mains'l

(All round the Horn!)

Atlantic answered: " Not from me!

(O-hay O! To me O!)

You'd better ask the cold North Sea,

For he ran me down under full plain canvas"

(All round the Horn!)

The North Sea answered, "He's my man!"

(O-hay O! To me O!)

For he came to me when he began

It was Frankie Drake in an open coaster

(All round the Sands!)

I caught him young and I used him sore,

(O-hay O! To me O!)

So you never shall startle Frankie more,

Without capsizing Earth and her waters.

(All round the Sands!)

I did not favor him at all

(O-hay O! To me O!)

I made him pull and I made him haul?

And stand his trick with the common sailors.

(All round the Sands!)

I froze him stiff and I fogged him blind,

(O-hay O! To me O!)

And kicked him home with his road to find

By what he could see in a three-day snow-storm.

(All round the Sands!)

I learned him his trade o' winter nights,

(O-hay O! To me O!)

"Twixt Mardyk Fort and Dunkirk lights,

On a five-knot tide with the forts a-firing.

(All round the Sands!)

Before his beard began to shoot,

(O-hay O! To me O!)

I showed him the length of the Spaniard's foot  
And I reckon he clapped the boot on it later.  
(All round the Sands!)

If there's a risk which you can make,  
(O-hay O! To me O!)  
That's worse than he was used to take  
Nigh every week in the way of his business;  
(All round the Sands!)

If there's a trick that you can try,  
(O-hay O! To me O!)  
Which he hasn't met in time gone by,  
Not once or twice, but ten times over;  
(All round the Sands!)

If you can teach him aught that's new  
(A-hay O! To me O!)  
I'll give you Bruges and Nieuport too,  
And the ten tall churches that stand between 'em!  
(All round the Sands!)

O, Storm along, my gallant Captains!  
(All round the Horn!)

Yes, it is a truly great song, but you've never really heard it until you've  
heard it sung by Ken Shatz and Alison Kelly of NexTradition.

MB

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