

Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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Herring's Head

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There once was a man who came from Kinsale
Sing aber o vane, sing aber o linn
And he had a herring, a herring for sale
Sing aber o vane, sing aber o linn
Sing man of Kinsale, sing herring for sale
Sing aber o vane, sing aber o linn
And indeed I have more of my herring to sing
Sing aber o vane, sing aber o linn

So what do you think they made of his head?
The finest oven that ever baked bread
Sing herring, sing head, sing oven, sing bread
And indeed I have more of my herring to sing

So what do you think they made of his back?
A nice little man and his name it was Jack
Sing herring, sing back, sing man, sing Jack
And indeed I have more of my herring to sing

So what do you think they made of his eyes?
The finest dishes that ever held pies
Sing herring, sing eyes, sing dishes, sing pies
And indeed I have more of my her ring to sing

So what do you think they made of his scales?
The finest ships that ever set sail
Sing herring, sing scales, sing ships, sing sails
And indeed I have more of my herring to sing

So what do you think they made of his fins?
The finest cases for needles and pins
Sing herring, sing fins, sing needles and pins
And indeed I have more of my herring to sing

tune in Irish Songs of the Sea, p60

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