

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Sailing to Amerikay

Sailing to Amerikay

You brave Irish people wherever you be,  
I pray stand a moment and listen to me;  
Your sons and fair daughters,  
They are going away,  
And thousands are sailing to Amerikay.

cho: So good luck to those people  
And safe may they land.  
They are leaving their country  
For a far distant strand.  
They are leaving old Ireland,  
No longer can stay,  
And thousands are sailing to Amerikay.

The night before leaving  
They are bidding goodbye,  
And it's early next morning  
Their hearts give a sigh.  
They do kiss their mothers,  
And then they will say,  
"Goodbye, dearest father,  
I am now going away."

Their friends and relations,  
And neighbours also,  
When the trunks they are packed up  
All ready to go,  
The tears from their eyes then  
Are falling like rain,  
And the horses are prancing  
Going off for the train.

When they do reach the station  
You will hear their last cry,  
With handkerchiefs waving  
And bidding goodbye,  
Their hearts will be breaking  
When leaving the shore.  
So goodbye, dear old Ireland,  
We will ne'er see you no more.

So pity the mother

Who rears up the child  
And likewise the father  
Who labours and toils.  
To try to support them  
He works night and day,  
And when they are reared  
They will go away.

Lyrics as performed by Andy Irvine & Dick Gaughan, reprinted in liner notes for  
"Folkfriends 2," FF 3003/4, 1981

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