

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Yea Ho, Little Fish

Yea Ho, Little Fish

Come all ye bold fishermen, listen to me;  
I'll sing you a song of the fish in the sea.

Yea ho, little fish, don't cry, don't cry;  
Yea ho, little fish, you be a whale by and by.

You go to fish school and can learn from a book  
How not to get caught on the fisherman's hook.

Watch out, little fish, we're out after you,  
But you can escape away deep in the blue.

You just swim around the fisherman's bait  
And you won't end up on the fisherman's plate.

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Recorded by Ed Trickett on "The Telling Takes Me Home", FSI-46.

"I learned this lullaby of warning from Mike Cohen in 1963. He mentioned that the song, or one similar to it, could be heard in the 1930's movie "Captains Courageous," which starred Spencer Tracy. I could not find the words from the movie version, but it was called "Manuel's love song" in the film and was written by Gus Kahn and Franz Waxman. The words I song are, I believe, a combination of traditional and written ones, with the tune and the chorus being very similar to that found in Meredith and Anderson's "Folksongs of Australia" in their song "The Little Fish." They report the song to be Portuguese in origin, but fairly widely known in North Queensland, Australia."

sung by Ed Trickett on Telling Takes Me Home  
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