

# Traditional & Folk Songs with lyrics & midi music

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### Banks of Green Willow

Banks of Green Willow

It's of a sea captain, lived by the sea side oh  
And he has courted a fair maid till she's proved with child oh

Crying, "Oh my love, what shall I do and what will become of me  
For my father and mother they will both disown me"

"Go fetch some of your father's gold and some of your mother's  
money  
And you can sail the ocean along with your Johnny"

So she's fetched some of her father's gold and some of her  
mother's money  
And she's gone on board a ship along with her Johnny

They hadn't been a sailing scarce six weeks nor so many  
Before she wanted woman's help and could not get any

"oh hold your tongue you foolish girl, oh hold your tongue my  
honey  
For we cannot get woman's help for love nor for money"

They hadn't been a sailing scarce six miles nor so many  
Before she was delivered of a beautiful baby

"Sea captain, sea captain, here's fifty pounds for thee  
If you'll fetch me home safe again, both me and my baby"

"Oh no," says the sea captain, "For such a thing can never be  
For tis better to loose two lives than it is to loose many"

So he's tied a kerchief round her head, he's tied it soft and  
easy  
And he has thrown her right overboard, both she and her baby

"See how my love do swim, my boys, see how my love do quiver  
She will never cease swimming till the banks of green willow"

"My love shall have a coffin of the gold that shines so yellow  
And she shall be buried by the banks of green willow"

Child #24

recorded by Frankie Armstrong  
SOF