

# A Yankee Man Of War - song lyrics

American Old-time song lyrics from [www.traditionalmusic.co.uk](http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk)

## A YANKEE MAN OF WAR

It was down in yonder meadow I carelessly did stray,  
There I beheld a lady fair, with some young sailor gay;  
Says he, " my pretty Susan, I soon must leave the shore,  
To cross the briny ocean in a Yankee Man o' War."

Young Susan fell a weeping, "young sailor," she did say,  
"How can you be so venturesome, to throw yourself away;  
For by the time I'm twenty-one I shall receive my store.  
Jolly sailor, do not venture in a Yankee Man o' War."

"Oh, Susan, lovely Susan, the truth to you I'll tell,  
Proud Mexico insulted us, America knows it well;  
I may be crowned with laurels, just like a jolly tar,  
And I'll face the shores of Mexico, in a Yankee Man o' War."

"How can you be so venturesome, to face those Mexicans,  
For when they're far in battle, love, they never take a man.  
And by a bloody dagger you might receive a scar;  
So turn your inclination from a Yankee Man o' War."

"Oh, Susan, lovely Susan, the time will quickly pass,  
Let's go down to yonder ferry-house and take a parting glass;  
My shipmates they are waiting to row me from the shore,  
And it's for America's glory, in a Yankee Man o' War."

The sailor took his handkerchief and tore it into two,  
Saying, " Susan, you may keep one half, the other I'll keep for you;  
When bullets may surround me and the cannons loudly roar,  
I'll fight for pretty Susan, in a Yankee Man o' War."