

THE WELLERMAN

words & music by Nathan Evans - Sea Shanty

Key: C **Start note:** E **Time:** 4/4 **Strum:** D_ du D_ du, D_ du du du

Intro: Am /// Am /// Dm /// Am /// Am /// Am /// E7/// Am ↓ ↓

Am
There once was a ship that put to sea
Dm Am
And the name of the ship was the Billy o' Tea

The winds blew up, her bow dipped down
E7 Am↓ Am↓
Oh blow, my bully boys, blow (huh!)

CHORUS:

F C
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm Am
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F C
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 Am
We'll take our leave and go.

Am
She had not been two weeks from shore
Dm Am
When down on her a right whale bore

The captain called all hands and swore
E7 Am↓ Am↓
He'd take that whale in tow (huh!)

CHORUS:

F C
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm Am
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F C
One day, when the tonguin' is done

E7 Am
We'll take our leave and go.

Am
Before the boat had hit the water
Dm Am
The whale's tail came up and caught her

All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her
E7 Am↓ Am↓
When she dived down below (huh!)

CHORUS:

F C
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm Am
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F C
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 Am
We'll take our leave and go.

Instrumentals

F C
Da-da-da-da-da-da-da
Dm Am
Da-da-da-da-da-da-da-da
F C
Da-da-da-da-da-da-da
E7 Am
Da-da-da-da-da-da-da

Am
No line was cut, no whale was freed;
Dm Am
The captain's mind was not on greed

But he belonged to the whaleman's creed;
E7 Am↓ Am↓
She took that ship in tow (huh!)

CHORUS:

F **C**
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm **Am**
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F **C**
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 **Am**
We'll take our leave and go.

Am
For forty days, or even more
Dm **Am**
The line went slack, then tight once more

All boats were lost, there were only four
E7 **Am**↓ **Am**↓
But still that whale did go.

CHORUS:

F **C**
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm **Am**
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F **C**
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 **Am**
We'll take our leave and go

Am
As far as I've heard, the fight's still on;
Dm **Am**
The line's not cut, and the whale's not gone

The Wellerman makes his regular call
E7 **Am**↓ **Am**↓
To encourage the captain, crew and all

CHORUS:

F **C**
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm **Am**
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F **C**
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 **Am**
We'll take our leave and go.

F **C**
Soon may the Wellerman come
Dm **Am**
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F **C**
One day, when the tonguin' is done
E7 **Am↓ Am↓**
We'll take our leave and go.