

## **Carter Family**

### **"Sailor Boy"**

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A Sailor's life is a merry life  
He robs young girls of their heart's delight  
Leaving them alone to weep and mourn  
They never know when he'll return

Of four and twenty all in a row  
My true love makes the finest show  
He's proper tall, genteel with all  
If I can't have him I'll have none at all

My father built me a bonny boat  
That on the ocean I might float  
And every queen ship that we passed by  
I'd there inquire for my sailor boy

She had not sailed long upon the deep  
When a queen ship she chanced to meet  
You sailors all please tell me true  
Does my sweet William sail among your crew?

Oh no fair maiden he's not here  
For he's been drowned we greatly fear  
On yon green island as we passed by  
There we lost sight upon your sailor boy

She wrung her hands, she tore her hair  
She was a maid in great despair  
Her little boat on the rock she did run  
Saying how shall I live now that my William is gone?

A sailor's life is a merry life  
He robs young girls of their heart's delight  
Leaving them behind to weep and mourn  
They never know when he'll return

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