

## Kris Drever

### "Patrick Spence"

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The king sits in Dunfermline toun  
Drinking his bluid-red wine  
'Whaur can i get a mariner  
Tae sail seven ships of mine?'

Then up spoke a fine young man  
A fine young man was he  
'Sir Patrick Spence is the best mariner  
That ever sailed on the sea'

The king, he's written a broad letter  
And signed it wi his own hand  
And sent it off to Sir Patrick Spence  
Waiting there on the strand

The very first line Sir Patrick read  
A little loud laugh gave he  
The very last line Sir Patrick read  
The salt tear blinded his ee

'O wha is it that has done this thing  
And told that tale on me  
I never was a mariner  
And i don't intend to be'

'Late yestreen i saw the new moon  
The auld moon in her arms  
I fear, i fear a deadly storm  
Oor ship, she will come to harm'

Rise up, rise up, my fine men aw  
Oor ship, she sails in the morn,  
Whether it's windy, whether it's wet  
Or whether there's a deadly storm

They hadn't been sailing a league or more  
A league or barely nine  
When the wind and the wet, the cauld and the snow  
Came blowing up behind

'O where, o where's the cabin boy

Tae take the helm in hand  
While I go up to the topmast side  
To see if I can spy some land'

'Come doun, come doun Sir Patrick Spence  
We fear that we all must die  
For in and oot o' the good ship's hull  
The wind and the ocean fly'

The very first step Sir Patrick took  
The water it came to his knee  
And the very last step Sir Patrick took  
He drount there in the sea

Many was the fine feather bed  
Floating on the foam  
Many was the little lord's son  
That never more came home

O long may the ladies sit  
Wi their fans aw in their hands  
Afore they see Sir Patrick Spence  
Come sailing along the strand

It's fifty miles to Aberdeen shore  
It's fifty fathoms deep  
And there does lie Sir Patrick Spence  
Wi the little lords at his feet

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