

The Kingston Trio

"Ah, Woe, Ah, Me"

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Nick Reynolds/Bob Shane/John Stewart

In Trinidad there was a family with much confusion, as
you will see.

There was a mama and a papa and a son who was
young, T who wanted to marry, have
a wife of his own.

"You cannot marry that girl. I got to say 'No.' That girl is
your sister but
your mama don't know!"

Chorus:

Ah, woe, ah, me. Shame and scandal in the family.

(Repeat)

So he found a young girl who suited him nice. He went
to his papa to ask his
advice.

His papa said, "Son, I got to say 'No.' That girl is your
sister but your mama
don't know!"

(Chorus)

As the weeks went by, the boy looked around. Soon the
best cook on the island
he found.

He went to his papa to name the day. His papa looked
at him and at him he did
say,

"You cannot marry that girl. I gotta say, 'No.' That girl is
your sister, but
your mama don't know!"

(Chorus)

So the years went by and he wished he was dead. He
had seventeen girls and
still wasn't wed.

When he'd ask his papa, papa would always say, "No!
That girl is your sister

but your mama don't know!"

(Chorus)

So he went to his mama and he bowed his head. Told
his mama what his papa had
said.

His mama said, "Son, go, man, go! Your papa ain't
your papa but your papa don't
know!"

(Chorus)

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