

**Altan****"The Sea-Apprentice Boy"**

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When first I went a sea-apprentice bound  
I sailed the salt seas all 'round and 'round  
I scarce had sailed a voyage but one  
When I fell in love with my charming Anne

I went to my captain both stout and bold  
And unto him my secret told  
I love yon lass as I love my life  
What would I give if she were my wife?

Well, the captain said, "You're a foolish boy  
For to court a girl that you'll ne'er enjoy  
For she'll have lovers while you're at sea  
And she'll be married e're you'll be free"

Well, I don't know but I'll go and try  
For she might fancy an apprentice boy  
And she might alter her mind for me  
And wait on me until I be free

Well, I bought her ribbons, I bought her gloves  
These things to prove of a heart that loves  
She accepted all and she was not shy  
And she vowed to wait for her apprentice boy

When my ship is anchored and my work is over  
I'll steer my barque for sweet Erin's shore  
In my native country, my love I'll enjoy  
And she'll welcome home her apprentice boy

So come all you sea-apprentices where e'er you be  
Never slight your true love while you're at sea  
Just love her as you love your life  
And she'll consent to become your wife

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