

The Handsome Cabin Boy

C **Gm**
'Tis of a handsome female
C
as you may understand.
Bb
Her mind being bent in rambling
F **Eb** **C**
un to some foreign land,
Bb
She dressed herself in sailor's clothes,
F **Eb** **C**
or so it does appear,
Gm
And hired with our captain
C
to serve him for a year.

The captain's wife she being on board,
she seem-ed in great joy,
To see her husband had engaged such a
handsome cabin boy,
And now and then she'd slip in a kiss
and she would have liked to toy
But it was the captain found out the
secret of the handsome cabin boy.

Her cheeks were red and rosy and her
hair hung in its curls,
The sailors often smiled and said he
looks just like a girl.
But eating the captain's biscuits, their
color didn't destroy,
And the waist did swell on pretty Nell,
the handsome cabin boy.

'Twas in the Bay of Biscay our gallant
ship did plow,
One night among the sailors was a
fearful scurrying row,
They tumbled from their hammocks for
their sleep it did destroy,
And swore about the groaning of the
handsome cabin boy.

Oh, doctor, dear doctor, the cabin
boy did cry,
My time has come, I am undone and I
must surely die.
The doctor come a-running and smiled
at the fun,
To think a sailor lad should have a
daughter or a son.

The sailors when they heard the joke,
they all did stand and stare
The child belonged to none of them
they solemnly did swear.
The captain's wife she looked at him
and said "I wish you joy,
For it's either you or I betrayed the
handsome cabin boy."

Then each man took his tot of rum,
and drunk success to trade,
And likewise to the cabin boy who was
neither man nor maid.
Here's hopin' the wars don't rise again,
our sailors to destroy,
And here's hoping for a jolly lot more
like the handsome cabin boy.