

**As I roved out one evening fair,**

**It bein' the summertime to take the air,**

**I spied a sailor and a lady gay,**

**And I stood to listen,**

**And I stood to listen to hear what they would say.**

**He said "Fair lady, why do you roam,**

**For the day is spent and the night is on?"**

**She heaved a sigh while the tears did roll,**

**"For my dark-eyed sailor,**

**For my dark-eyed sailor, so young and stout and bold."**

**"'Tis seven long years since he left this land,**

**A ring he took from off his lily-white hand.**

**One half of the ring is still here with me,**

**But the other's rollin',**

**But the other's rollin' at the bottom of the sea."**

**He said: "You may drive him out of your mind,**

**Some other young man you will surely find.**

**Love turns aside and soon cold has grown,**

**Like the winter's morning,**

**Like the winter's morning, the hills are white with snow."**

**She said "I'll never forsake my dear,**

**Although we're parted this many a year.**

**Genteel he was and a rake like you,**

**To induce a maiden,**

**To induce a maiden to slight the jacket blue."**

**One half of the ring did young William show,**

**She ran distracted in grief and woe.**

**Sayin' "William, William, I have gold in store,**

**For my dark-eyed sailor,**

**For my dark-eyed sailor has proved his honour long."**

**And there is a cottage by yonder lea,**

**This couple's married and does agree.**

**So maids be loyal when your love's at sea,**

**For a cloudy morning,**

**For a cloudy morning brings in a sunny day.**