

# Wellerman

key:Am, artist:The Longest Johns writer:traditional

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E\\_8tAyecj2g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_8tAyecj2g)

*Thanks to Gráinne Diskin*

**[Am]** There once was a ship that put to sea  
And the **[Dm]** name of the ship was the **[Am]** Billy of Tea  
The **[Am]** winds blew hard, her bow dipped down  
Oh **[E7]** blow, my bully boys, **[Am]** blow

**[F]** Soon may the **[C]** Wellerman come  
To **[Dm]** bring us sugar and **[Am]** tea and rum  
**[F]** One day, when the **[C]** tonguin' is done,  
We'll **[E7]** take our leave and **[Am]** go

She **[Am]** had not been two weeks from shore  
When **[Dm]** down on her a **[Am]** right whale bore  
The **[Am]** captain called all hands and swore  
He'd **[E7]** take that whale in **[Am]** tow

**[Am]** Before the boat had hit the water  
The **[Dm]** whale's tail came **[Am]** up and caught her  
All **[Am]** hands to the side, harpooned and fought her  
When **[E7]** she dived down **[Am]** below

No **[Am]** line was cut, no whale was freed;  
The **[Dm]** Captain's mind was **[Am]** not of greed  
But **[Am]** he belonged to the whaleman's creed;  
She **[E7]** took the ship in **[Am]** tow

For **[Am]** forty days, or even more  
The **[Dm]** line went slack, then **[Am]** tight once more  
All **[Am]** boats were lost (there were only four)  
But **[E7]** still that whale did **[Am]** go

As **[Am]** far as I've heard, the fight's still on;  
The **[Dm]** line's not cut and the **[Am]** whale's not gone  
The **[Am]** Wellerman makes his regular call  
To **[E7]** encourage the Captain, **[Am]** crew, and all

*Chorus x2*

