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Am
There once was a ship that put to sea
                                 Am
And the name of the ship was the Billy o' Tea
The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down
Ε
                     Am
Blow, me bully boys, blow (huh!)
[Chorus]
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
We'll take our leave and go
[Verse 2]
   Am
She had not been two weeks from shore
When down on her a right whale bore
The captain called all hands and swore
He'd take that whale in tow (huh!)
[Chorus]
              C
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
                  С
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
We'll take our leave and go
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[Verse 3]
  Am
Before the boat had hit the water
The whale's tail came up and caught her
All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her
When she dived down below (huh!)
[Chorus]
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
We'll take our leave and go
[Verse 4]
   Am
No line was cut, no whale was freed;
The Captain's mind was not of greed
But he belonged to the whaleman's creed;
She took the ship in tow (huh!)
[Chorus]
             C
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
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One day, when the tonguin' is done,
      Е
We'll take our leave and go
[Verse 5]
     Am
For forty days, or even more
The line went slack, then tight once more
     Am
All boats were lost (there were only four)
But still that whale did go
[Chorus]
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
We'll take our leave and go
[Verse 6]
As far as I've heard, the fight's still on;
The line's not cut and the whale's not gone
The Wellerman makes his regular call
                           Am
To encourage the Captain, crew, and all
[Chorus]
Soon may the Wellerman come
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Dm Am
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
F C
One day, when the tonguin' is done,
 E Am G
We'll take our leave and go

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