

# THE MERMAID

for 2-part voices and piano  
with optional SoundTrax\*

Traditional Sea Ballad  
Arranged by JACK ZAINO

**With spirit ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )**

**PIANO**

**PART I**

**PART II**

**6**

'Twas Fri - day morn when

'Twas Fri - day morn when

\* Also available for 3-part mixed (48889) and T.B. (48890).  
SoundTrax CD available (48892). Visit [alfred.com](http://alfred.com) for digital scores and audio.

"The Mermaid" is a traditional sea ballad that dates back to the mid 1700s, probably with roots in England or Scotland. Over the centuries, many different versions have spread across Ireland, Australia, and North America. The song tells the story of a ship's captain who spots a mermaid in the distance. Since mermaids were thought to bring bad luck to sailors, the whole crew panics! Convinced that their ship will sink, everyone takes turns expressing their woe – often in a comedic way. Many folk musicians keep a tradition of improvising verses about friends and family in the audience. What would your character say if you were on the ship?

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To purchase a full-length performance recording of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads)

7

we set sail, and we were not far from the

we set sail, and we were not far from the

9

land when the cap-tain, she spied a

land when the cap-tain, she spied a

11

mer-maid so fair with a comb and a glass in her

mer-maid so fair with a comb and a glass in her

13 *mp*

hand. And the o - cean waves do

hand. And the o - cean waves do

15 *cresc.*

roll, and the storm - y winds do

roll, and the storm - y winds do

17 *mf*

blow, and we poor sail - ors, we're

blow, and we poor sail - ors, we're

*mf*

48891

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19

skip - pin' at the top while the land - lub - bers\* lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be -

skip - pin' at the top while the land - lub - bers\* lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be -

21

low, be - low, be - low, while the land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be -

low, be - low, be - low, while the land lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be -

23

low.

Then

low.

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\* A landlubber is a novice sailor.

25

up spoke the cap - tain of our gal - lant ship, and a

And a

fine, brave cap - tain was she. She said ...

fine, brave cap - tain was she. She said ...

29

*f* SOLO (Captain)

"This fish - y mer - maid has warned me of our doom. We shall

31

(end solo) ALL *mf*

sink to the bot - tom of \_\_ the seal?" And the

33 *mf*

And the o - cean waves do

o - cean waves do roll, and the

35

roll, and the storm - y winds do

storm - y winds do blow, and

48891

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Musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The score consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The lyrics 'blow \* \_\_\_\_\_' are written above the staff. The bottom staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The lyrics 'We're skip - pin' at the top while the' are written below the staff.

we poor \_\_\_\_ sail - ors, we're skip - pin' at the top while the

Continuation of the musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The top staff continues with the lyrics 'we poor \_\_\_\_ sail - ors, we're skip - pin' at the top while the'. The bottom staff continues with the lyrics 'while the'.

Continuation of the musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The top staff continues with the lyrics 'land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low, be - low, be - low, while the'. The bottom staff continues with the lyrics 'while the'.

land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low, be - low, be - low, while the

Continuation of the musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The top staff continues with the lyrics 'land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low, be - low, be - low, while the'. The bottom staff continues with the lyrics 'while the'.

Continuation of the musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The top staff continues with the lyrics 'land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low.'. The bottom staff continues with the lyrics 'while the'.

land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low.

Continuation of the musical score for 'We're skipping at the top'. The top staff continues with the lyrics 'land - lub - bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_\_\_ be - low.'. The bottom staff continues with the lyrics 'while the'.

\* Small slide, like the blowing wind.

43

*prim and proper* *mf*

Then up spoke the cook of our gallant ship, and a

*prim and proper* *mf*

And a

46

fan - cy, fine chef was he. He said ...

fan - cy, fine chef was he. He said ...

48

*f* *solo (Chef)*

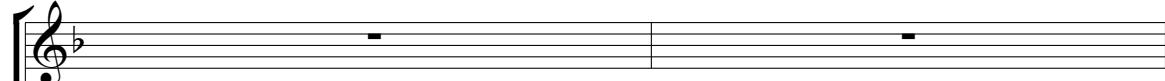
I care much more for my ket-tles and my pans than I

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10

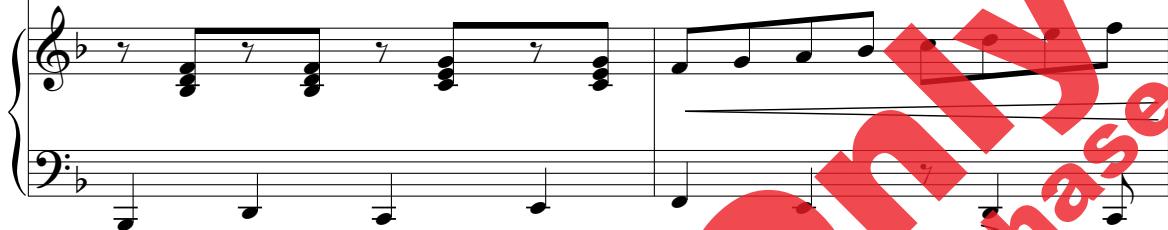
50



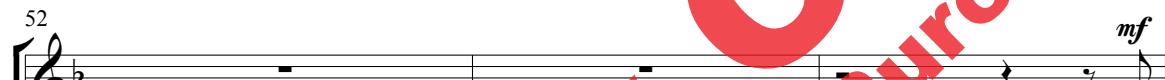
*ad lib clamor and commotion  
during this interlude*

(end solo)

do for the bot - tom of \_\_\_ the sea!"



52

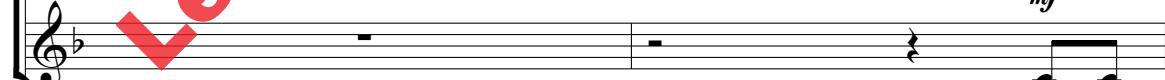


Then

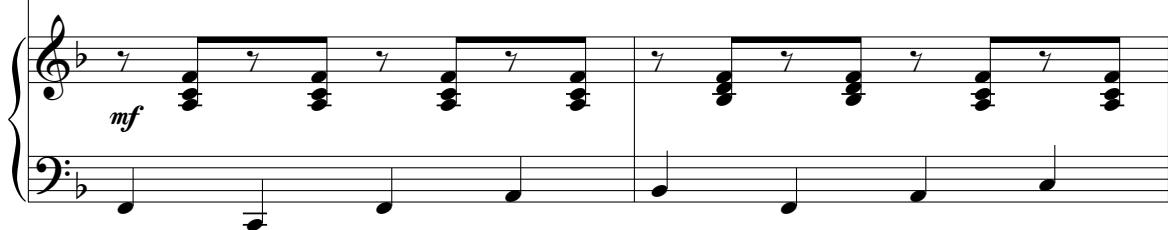


up spoke the par - rot on our gal - lant ship, and a

*mf*



And a



57

cra - zy old bug-ger was \_\_\_ he.  
He said ...

cra - zy old bug-ger was \_\_\_ he.  
He said ...

59

SOLO (Parrot)

*f*  
"I care much more for me crack - ers and me seeds than I

61

(end solo)

ALL *f*

do for the bot - tom of \_\_\_ the sea!" And the

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63

*f*

And the o - - cean waves do

o - - cean waves do roll,

and the

65

roll,  
and the storm - y winds do

storm - y winds do blow, and

blow.  
We're skip-pin' at the top while the

we poor sail - ors, we're skip-pin' at the top while the

69

land - lub-bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_ be - low, be - low, be - low, while the  
land - lub-bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_ be - low, be - low, be - low, while the

71

land - lub-bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_ be - low.  
land - lub-bers lie \_\_\_\_ down \_\_ be - low.

74

Three times 'round spun \_\_\_\_ our gal - lant ship, and  
Three times 'round spun \_\_\_\_ our gal - lant ship, and

A large red diagonal watermark reading "Illegal Use Review Only Requires Purchase" is overlaid across the page.

Musical score for two voices and piano. The vocal parts are in common time, key of G major. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords. The lyrics are: "three times 'round spun she." The piano part ends with a fermata over the last note.

three times 'round spun she.

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue with the same melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are identical to the previous measure: "three times 'round spun she."

three times 'round spun she.

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue with the same melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are identical to the previous measure: "three times 'round spun she."

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts begin a new phrase: "Three times 'round spun our gal-lant ship, and she". The piano part features eighth-note chords. The dynamic is marked *molto rit.* (molto ritardando).

Three times 'round spun our gal-lant ship, and she

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue: "Three times 'round spun our gal-lant ship, and she". The piano part continues with eighth-note chords.

Three times 'round spun our gal-lant ship, and she

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue: "Three times 'round spun our gal-lant ship, and she". The piano part continues with eighth-note chords. The dynamic is marked *molto rit.* (molto ritardando).

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts begin a new phrase: "sank to the bot-tom of the sea.". The piano part features eighth-note chords. The dynamic is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte).

sank to the bot-tom of the sea.

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue: "sank to the bot-tom of the sea.". The piano part features eighth-note chords. The dynamic is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte).

sank to the bot-tom of the sea.

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts continue: "sank to the bot-tom of the sea.". The piano part features eighth-note chords. The dynamic is marked *decresc.* (decrescendo) and *mp* (mezzo-pianissimo).

decresc.

*mp*

83

Cautiously ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 84$ )*p*

82

*p*

And the  
And the o - cean waves do

8va

Cautiously ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 84$ )*p*

84

*accel. poco a poco*
*cresc.*

*accel. poco a poco*

*cresc.*

o - cean waves do roll,  
roll, and the storm - y winds do

*accel. poco a poco*
*cresc.*

*accel. poco a poco*

*cresc.*

and the storm - y winds do

87 Happily ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 116$ )*f*

and the storm - y winds do blow. We're  
blow,

and we poor sail - ors, we're

Happily ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 116$ )*f*

Happily ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 116$ )

skip-pin' at the top while the land - lub-bers lie down be -

skip-pin' at the top while the land - lub-bers lie down be -

*v.* *v.* *v.*

90 *rit.* *a tempo* *mf* [92]

low, be - low, be - low, while the land lub - bers

low, be - low, be - low, while the land - lub - bers

*rit.* *a tempo* *mf*

93 *f (fall)* *f (fall)*

lie down be - low!\* lie down be - low!\*

*f*

*v.* *8vb*

\* Small slides, like the ship is still a bit unstable!