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The Lyrics

British Sailor

My name it is Jack I'm a British sailor I've sailed Men of War, Privateers and Whalers The sea may be calm or the ocean may boil But Jacks more at home than the blokes digging soil

We sign on at Swansea at Shields and Dundee Middlesbrough, Liverpool Hull and Whitby Merchantman, Navy, Fisherman or Whaler Jackie Tar O the British sailor

With our red sails all set and our boat running free There's many a landsman would love to be me The wind bites our faces, the deck takes the tide Lads if you would marry may the sea be your bride

I sailed with Vancouver and young Mister Bligh Three times round the world with James Cook for a guide It was me faced the Spaniard and gave Drake his smile I was there at Trafalgar, I fought at the Nile

I worked on the slavers would turn any man Spent years on the whalers saw China, Japan Tea clipper, Packet, shallow coast or deep sea There's no better life for a sailor like me

From Tilbury harbour with the wind on the rise With our red sails all set and the sea as our prize Red sails in the sunset red sun in our eyes As a sailor I'm free as the bird in the skies

But now its containers super-ferries and all There's tankers so super they're not ships at all The old days have gone now the memories paler But we'll not forget Jack aye the British sailor!