

A Whale of a Tale (from Disney's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*) 1954

Words and Lyrics by Norman Gimbel and Al Hoffman Performed by Kirk Douglas

Intro: D A7 D G D A7 D

Chorus:

(A7) Got a (D) whale of a (D7) tale to (G) tell ya, (D) lads
A whale of a (Ebdim) tale or (Em7) two- (A7) oo
'Bout the (D) flappin' (D7) fish and the (G) girls I've (A7) loved
On (D) nights like (A7) this with the (D) moon above
A whale of a (A7) tale, and (D) it's all (G) true
I (D) swear by (A7) my tat- (D) too.

Verse 1:

(D) There was (G) Mermaid Minnie
(D) *n.c.* Met her down in Madagascar
(G) She would kiss me
(D) *n.c.* Any time that I would ask her
(G) Then one evening, her (D) flame of love blew (A7) out
(D) Blow me (D7) down and (G) pick me (Gm) up!
She (A7) swapped me for a (D) trout!

Chorus

Verse 2:

(D) There was (G) Typhoon Tessie
(D) *n.c.* Met her on the coast of Java
(G) When we kissed, I... (D) *n.c.* bubbled up like molten lava
(G) Then she gave me the (D) scare of my young (A7) life
(D) Blow me (D7) down and (G) pick me (Gm) up!
She (A7) was the captain's (D) wife!

D A7 D G D A7 D

Verse 3: (Spoken slowly and quietly. Each chord only strummed once quietly)

There was Harpoon Hannah (D)
Had a face that made you shudder, (G) lips like fishhooks... (D)
And a nose just like a rudder
(Singing again) (G) If I kissed her and (D) held her tender- (A7) ly (Crew member with deep voice: Held her tenderly-y-y)
There's (D) no sea (D7) monster (G) big e- (Gm) nough
To (A7) ever frighten (D) me.

Final Chorus (with different chords on final lines)

(D) A whale of a (A7) tale, and (D) it's all true
I (G) swear by (A7) my tat- (D) too.

Alternate Third Verse in the Soundtrack

Then there was Harpoon Hannah
Had a look that spelled out danger
My heart quivered when she whispered "Hi there Stranger"
Bought her Trinkets, That sailors can't afford (Crew member with deep voice:) Sailors can't affo-o-o-ord
And when I spent my last red cent
She tossed me over board!

