

# The Golden Vanity

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Traditional (Child Ballad #286)

<sup>G</sup>  
There was a ship that sailed  
<sup>D</sup> all on the <sup>Em</sup> Lowland Sea,  
and the <sup>Am</sup> name of our <sup>A7</sup> ship  
was the <sup>D</sup> Golden Vanity  
and we <sup>G</sup> feared she would be taken  
by the <sup>D</sup> Spanish <sup>Em</sup> enemy  
as we <sup>Am</sup> sailed upon the <sup>D</sup> Lowland, <sup>G</sup> Lowland, <sup>Em</sup> low  
<sup>Am</sup> we sailed upon the <sup>D</sup> Lowland <sup>G</sup> sea.

Then up stepped our cabin boy  
and boldly outspoke he  
and he said to our captain  
"what would you give to me  
If I would swim along side  
of the Spanish enemy  
and sink her in the Lowland,  
Lowland, low  
and sink her in the Lowland, sea

"Oh, I would give you silver  
and I would give you gold,  
And my own fairest daughter  
your bonny bride shall be,  
If you will swim along side  
of the Spanish enemy  
and sink her in the Lowland,  
Lowland low  
And sink her in the Lowland sea.

The the boy he made him read  
And overboard sprang he  
and he swam alongside  
of the Spanish enemy  
And with his brace and auger  
in her side he bored holes three,  
And he sunk her in the Lowland,  
Lowland Low,  
And he sunk her in the Lowland Sea.

Then quickly he swam back  
to the cheering of the crew

But the captain would not heed him  
for his promise he did rue,  
and he scorned his poor entreatings  
when loudly he did sue,  
And he left him in the Lowland,  
Lowland, Low  
And he left him in the Lowland Sea.

Then quickly he swam round  
to the port side  
And up to his messmates  
full bitterly he cried,  
"Oh, messmates, draw me up  
for I'm drifting with the tide,  
And I'm sinking in the Lowland,  
Lowland, Low  
I'm sinking in the lowland sea."

Then his messmates drew him up,  
But on the deck he died,  
And they stitched him in his hammock  
Which was so fair and wide,  
And they lowered him overboard  
And he drifted with the tide,  
And he sank in the Lowland,  
Lowland, low  
And he sank in the Lowland sea.