

HE PLAYED HIS UKULELE AS THE SHIP WENT DOWN - Le Clerq 1931

Intro: 1st 4 lines of Verse 1 then 2 bars of C then Yo [A7] ho, my lads, yo-ho.

1. I'll [C] tell the tale of the [F] Nancy Lee,
The [G7] ship that got ship [C] wrecked at sea.
The bravest man was [F] Captain Brown
For he [G7] played his ukulele as the [C] ship went down.

[Am] All the crew were [E7] in despair.

[Am] Some rushed here and the [D7] others rushed [G7] there,
But the [C] captain sat in the [F] captain's chair

And he [G7] played his ukulele as the [C] ship went down. +2 bars

Yo [A7] ho, my lads, yo-ho.

2. The [C] pets on board were [F] all scared stiff,
The [G7] cat miaowed and the [C] monkey sniffed
The old green parrot hung [F] upside-down
[G7] Screeching "Pretty Polly" as the [C] ship went down.

[Am] The crows' nest fell and [E7] killed the crow.

[Am] The starboard watch was [D7] two hours [G7] slow,
But the [C] Captain sang Yo- [F] vodi-do-doh,
As he [G7] played his ukulele as [C] ship went down.

[A7 slide up to 6th fret and back] Whoooo Yo [A7] ho, my lads, yo-ho.

3. The [C] skipper shouted [F] fore and aft,
"I'll [G7] have no slackers [C] aboard this craft.
So understand," said [F] Captain Brown,
"I want [G7] everybody present when the [C] ship goes down.

[Am] "The cook's gone mad and the [E7] bosun's lame.

[Am] The rudder has gone and the [D7] deck's a-[G7]-flame.

The [C] G-string's snapped, but [F] all the same

I shall [G7] play my ukulele as the [C] ship goes down." +2 bars

Yo [A7] ho, my lads, yo-ho.

4. The [C] mate said, "It's o-[F]-kay with me,
A [G7] shipwreck suits me [C] to a T.
I owe ten bob to [F] Captain Brown
And I'll [G7] never have to pay him if the [C] ship goes down."

[Am] The skipper shouted [E7] back, "No chat.

[Am] I'll do my best, and [D7] after [G7] that,

D'you [C] mind if I pass a-[F]-round the hat,

And I'll [G7] play my ukulele as the [C] ship goes down?

[A7 slide up to 6th fret and back] Whoooo Yo [A7] ho, my lads, yo-ho.

5. Now [C] this is the tale of the [F] Nancy Lee,
The [G7] ship that got ship [C] wrecked at sea;
And Captain Brown, who was [F] in command,
Now [G7] plays his ukulele in a [C] mermaid band. [A7] Whoooo [G7] [C]

