

# The mermaid

Mari Boine

The Mermaid by Great Big Sea  
When I was a lad in a fishin' town  
My old man said to me:  
"You can spend your life, your jolly life  
Just sailin' on the sea.  
You can search the world for pretty girls  
Til your eyes grow weak and dim,  
But don't go searchin' for a mermaid, son  
If you don't know how to swim"  
(course)  
'Cause her hair was green as seaweed  
Her skin was blue and pale  
Her face, it was a work of art, I loved that girl with all my heart  
I only liked the upper part  
I did not like the tail  
I signed onto a sailing ship  
My first very day at sea  
I seen the mermaid in the waves,  
Reaching out to me  
"Come live with me in the sea said she,  
Down on the ocean floor  
And I'll show you a million wonderous things,  
you've never seen before  
So over I jumped and she pulled me down,  
Down to her seaweed bed  
And a pillow made of tortoise-shell  
She placed beneath my head  
She fed me shrimp and caviar  
Upon a silver dish  
From her head to her waist it was just my taste  
But the rest of her was a fish  
(course)  
Then one day, she swam away  
So I sang to the clams and the whales  
"Oh, how I miss her seaweed hair  
And the silver shine of her scales  
But then her sister, she swam by  
Set my heart awhirl  
'Cause her upper part was an ugly fish

An er bottom part was a girl  
Yes her hair was green as seaweed  
Her skin was blue and pale, her legs they are a work of art  
I love that girl with all my heart  
And I don't give a damn bout the upper part  
'Cause that's how I get my tail

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