

Ten Thousand Miles Away

A popular song derived from broadsides of the early 1800s, collected in Australia from a number of sources.

Sing ho for a brave and gal-lant ship and a fair and fav-'ring breeze
And a bul-ly crew and a cap-tain too to car-ry me o-ver-seas.
To ___ car-ry me o-ver-seas me lads to my true love far a-way.
She's tak-ing a trip on a gov-ern-ment ship ten thous-and miles a ___ way

Chorus

So blow ye winds heigh ho a-roving I will go
I'll stay no more on England's shore to hear the music play.
I'm off on the morning train to cross the raging main.
I'm taking a trip on a government ship ten thousand miles away.

Now my true love she was beautiful and my true love she was young
Her eyes they shone like diamonds bright and silvery sounds her tongue.
And silvery sounds her tongue, me boys, and while I sing this lay
She's doin' the grand in a distant land, ten thousand miles away.

Oh dark and dismal was the day when last I seen me Meg.
She'd a government band around each hand and another one round each leg.
And another one round each leg, me boys, all togged in a suit of grey
Adieu, said she, remember me, ten thousand miles away.

I wish I were a bosun bold or even a bombardier
I'll build a boat and away I'd float and straight to my true love steer
And straight to my true love steer, me boys, where the dancing dolphins play
And the whales and sharks are having their larks ten thousand miles away.

Now the sun may shine through a London fog or the Thames run bright and clear,
The ocean brine be turned to wine e'er I forget me beer.
E'er I forget me beer, me boys, or me landlord's quart a day.
E'er I forget me own true love ten thousand miles away.