

The TANKERMAN'S SHANTY

Well my [D] name is Ole [A] Hansen - I'm from [D] Bergen
And I've [G] been a sailor [D] all my adult [A] life
Now I [D] never wed - it's [A] just my ship and [Bm] I, sir
And two [E7] hundred thousand tons makes quite a [A] wife!
As a [D] lad I sailed as [A] bosun for my [D] uncle
Then I [G] spent eleven [D] years as mate with [A] Shell
I am [G] fifteen years the [A] Master of this [Bm] vessel
So we [E7] know the seas and oceans rather [A] well
But you [Dm] never hear a [A] song about a [Dm] tanker
There's just [Gm] no romance
In [F] crude oil or in [A] steel
No [Dm] icebergs causing [A] panic
As a- [Dm] board the old "Ti- [Gm] tanic"
And we're [F] surely not as [Gm] graceful
As the [E7] "Herzogin Ce- [A] cile"

*Yo- [Dm] Ho! (I [Bb] think that's what they [A] used to say)
Yo [Dm] Ho!*

Now we [D] wouldn't know a [A] trade wind from a [D] train wreck
And [G] "monster waves" bounce [D] harmless off our [A] side
Our [D] G P S will [A] tell us our [Bm] position
Our [E7] computer tells the Owners how we [A] ride
Once we [D] flew the flag of [A] Norway - now it's [D] Cyprus
We have [G] crew from Greece, [D] Peru, the Philip- [A] pines
At the [G] berth the chandler [A] brings us our sup- [Bm] plies, sir
Half a [E7] ton of rice and thirteen kinds of [A] beans
But no [Dm] need for music [A] much around a [Dm] tanker
As the [Gm] Coast Guard and the [F] unions both [A] agree
So we're [Dm] dull and unro- [A] mantic
In Pa- [Dm] cific or At- [Gm] lantic
As our [F] satellite navi- [Gm] gator
[E7] Steers us towards the calmest [A] sea

Yo-Ho! (I think that's what they used to say) Yo Ho!

It's been [D] nice to chat but [A] now it's time for [D] work, sir
We've just [G] heard the harbor [D] pilot's on the [A] way
We've got [D] clearance from the [A] Customs and our [Bm] agents
And I [E7] see line-handlers waiting on the [A] quay

We've been [D] ordered to West [A] Africa to [D] load, sir
Then it's [G] eastwards to Ko- [D] rea once a- [A] gain
Lots of [G] whales along the [A] route to keep us [Bm] comp'ny
There's a [E7] white one that swims near us now and [A] then

But you [Dm] never hear a [A] song about a [Dm] tanker
All the [Gm] shantymen ig- [F] nore us as a [A] rule
They will [Dm] sing their lovely [A] phrases
In a [Dm] graceful schooner's [Gm] praises
Or re- [F] call heroic [Gm] episodes
When [E7] life and seas were [A] cruel

(Audible sigh)

Yo-Ho! (I think that's what they used to say) Yo Ho!