

“Bonnie Boy” and “The Bentley”

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These songs are from Ian Bell’s CD *Forget Me Not When Far Away* (reviewed elsewhere in this issue). The songs on the CD come mostly from the Ivan Walton Collection, which is available in book form

as *Windjammers: Songs of the Great Lakes Sailors* (Great Lakes Books Series), 2002, Detroit: Wayne State University Press.

BONNIE BOY

There's a g - irl on the beach___ and she moves through the
sha dows___ Sal - ty tears___ stain her long bl - ack
gown. And she waits for her love who is ne - ver re -
tur - ning. And in the dark night she calls his
name. B - on - nie boy___ won't you come___ back to me?
home a - gain___ from the cruel,___ cru - el sea. And I'll
give you_ my hand and we'll walk here to - get - her___
Ne - ver more___ will I lose you a - gain.

Bonnie Boy

Words and Music by Bruce Milner (SOCAN)

There's a girl on the beach, and she moves in the shadows;
Salty tears stain her long black gown,
And she waits for her love, who is never returning,
And in the dark night she calls his name.

Chorus:

Bonnie boy, won't you come back to me,
Home again from the cruel, cruel sea?
And I'll give you my hand, and we'll walk here together;
Never more will I lose you again.

There's a lighthouse that shines, and it beckons the sailors;
All alone in the harbour she stands;
But the storms rule the waves, and they take what they're after,
And in the distance a life has been claimed.

Chorus

All you fair single girls, listen now to my warning:
Find a young man with roots on the land,
For the sea takes its toll of the sailors that try her,
And all alone you will cry in your bed.

Chorus, twice

“Bonnie Boy” was written by former commercial fisherman Bruce “House” Milner after the tragic sinking of the Port Dover fishtug *Captain K* and the

deaths of her captain and crew on March 18, 1991. A heartfelt song on a timeless theme.