

THE GAIRDNER'S SON

ALAN REID

LOOK SHARP GUDEWIFE FOR YONDER'S COMIN' MR. PAUL THE GAIRDNER
I HEAR HIS SON IS SAFELY HAME AND FRESH FAE HIS ADVENTURE
THEY SAY HE'S NO' STOPPED TALKIN' SINCE HE LEFT WHITEHAVEN HARBOUR
AND NOO' HE'S BACK IN GALLOWA' TAE BIDE HERE FOR THE WINTER

GUID DAY TO YOU NOW MR. PAUL I HEAR YOUR SONS ARE GRAND SIR
FOR WILLIE BIDES IN FREDERICKSBURG IN BUSINESS AS A TAILOR
I HEAR YOUNG JOHN MET UP WI' HIM WHEN HE WAS IN VIRGINIA
HE'S JUST A LAD O' FOURTEEN YEAR BUT FAITH HE'S QUITE THE SAILOR

HE SAW THE SUNSET ON THE SPANISH MAIN
THE STARS AROON THE FULL VIRGINIA MOON
HE'S JUST A LAD O' FOURTEEN YEAR BUT FAITH HE'S QUITE THE SAILOR

GUDEWIFE AH'VE JUST BEEN TELLT O' YOUNG JOHN PAUL THE MERCHANT SAILOR
HE'S ONLY TWENTY ONE BUT YET ALREADY HE'S A MASTER
HE KENS HIS BUSINESS WEEL IT SEEMS BUT OH HE HAS A TEMPER
AND THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM GRIEF ON HIS LAST VOYAGE TAE GRANADA

THEY SAY HE FLOGGED THE MAXWELL BOY FOR INSOLENT BEHAVIOUR
AND SAILIN' HAME THE YOUNG LAD DIED EXPIRIN' FROM A FEVER
THEY FLUNG JOHN IN KIRKCUDBRIGHT JAIL ACCUSED BY MAXWELL'S FAITHER
HIS BAIL IS PAID BUT SARELY GRIEVES THE WIDOW O' THE GAIRDNER

HE'S BROCHT A LETTER FAE THE SPANISH MAN
IT TELLS THE LAW THAT JOHN WAS NO' TAE BLAME
AND WI' A HANDSHAKE HE'S AWA' AND KEPT INTACT HIS HONOUR

FINE WEEL YE KEN GUDEWIFE AH'M NO' A YIN FOR IDLE CHATTER
THE LATEST ON THE GAIRDNER'S SON HE'S BEEN ACCUSED O' MURDER
LAST YEAR HE FELLED A MUTINEER WHO PERISHED ON HIS RAPIER
AND NOO' HE'S FLED THE WINDWARD ISLES WHILES TAE JINE HIS BROTHER

TEMPERS RISIN' ON THE SPANISH MAIN
CRIES FOR BLOOD A NATIVE MAN IS SLAIN
JOHN PAUL IT SEEMS HAS DISAPPEARED, HE'S MAYBE IN VIRGINIA