

The sloop John B.

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

A traditional folk song from the Bahamas first collected in 1916.

Calypsos like this one were very popular in the 1960s when I first started playing the guitar. This story was based on a disastrous voyage plagued by bad behaviour that ended in a shipwreck see [Sloop John B - Wikipedia](#). Yet another song from BBC radio's 'Singing together' Summer 1977.

We sailed on the sloop John B., My grand-pap-py and me. Round Nas-sau town we did roam. Drink-ing all night, Got in-to a fight, I feel so break-up,

Chorus

I want to go home. So hoist up the John B.'s sails, See how the main-sail sets. Send for the cap-tain a-shore, let me go home, O, let me go home.

I want to go home, I feel so break-up, I want to go home.

We sailed on the sloop John B.,
My grandpappy and me.
Round Nassau town we did roam.
Drinking all night, Got into a fight.
I feel so break up, I want to go home.
CHORUS: So hoist up the John B.'s sails,
See how the mainsail sets,
Send for the Captain ashore, let me go home.
Let me go home, I want to go home
I feel so break up, I want to go home.

The first mate he got drunk,
Broke up the people's trunks,
Constable come on board to take him away.
Mister Johnstone, please let me alone
I feel so break up, I want to go home. **CHORUS**

Poor cook he got the fits, threw away all our grits
Then he took up and ate all of our corn
Let me go home, I want to go home
I feel so break up, I want to go home. **CHORUS**

