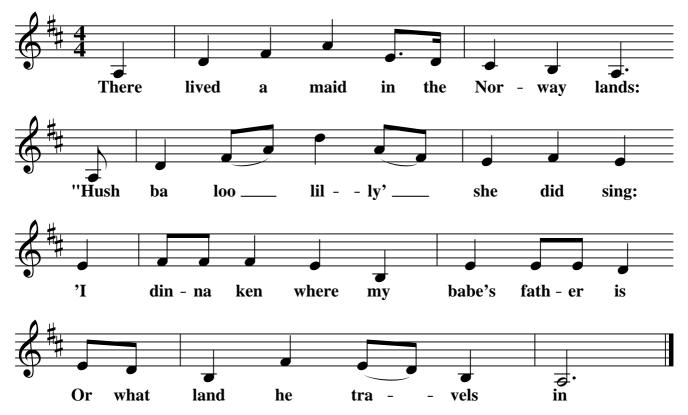
The Grey Selkie



There lived a maid in the Norway lands; "Hush ba loo lil-ly", she did sing: I dinna ken where my babe's father is Or what land he travels in.

Now it happened one night As this fair maid lay fast asleep That in there came a grey selkie And laid himself down at her bed feet,

Crying "Awake, awake, my pretty maid For thy babe's father's sitting at the bed feet.

"For I'm a man upon the land A selkie in the sea, And I do come from the Wast'ard o' Hoy, Which wise men do call Sule Skerrie.

"My name it is good Hyne Malair; I earn my livin' by the sea, An' when I'm far from ev'ry shore It's then I am in Sule Skerrie." "Oh, what a fate, what a weary fate What a weary fate's been laid for me, That a selkie should come from the Wast'ard o' Hoy To the Norway lands to have a babe with me."

"Oh, I will wed thee with a ring, With a ring, my dear, I'll wed with thee." "Thou may wed thu's weds with whom thou wilt, But I'm sure thou'll ne'er wed none wi' me."

"Then thou shalt nurse thy little wee son For seven long years upon thy knee; And at the end of seven years I'll come an' pay thy nurse's fee."

It's, oh, she's nursed her little wee son For seven years upon her knee And he's come back a gay gentleman With a coffer of gold and white monie.

She says, "I'll wed thee with a ring With a ring, my dear, I'll wed wi' thee."
"Thou may wed thee's weds with whom thou wilt, I'm sure thou'll ne'er wed none wi' me.

"But you will get a gunner good,
And aye a good gunner he'll be,
And he'll gaeng out on a May morning
And he'll shoot the son and the grey selkie."

(So he took the son away and ...)

"I'll put a gold chain about his neck, [An' a gey good gold chain it'll be] That is ever he comes to the Norway lands, it's, oh, well know-ed he may be."

And, oh, she got a gunner good, And aye a good gunner was he And he gaed out one May morning An' he shot the son and the grey selkie. (Then he returned and showed her this wonderful thing that he'd found, the g

"Oh you have shot good Hyne Malair, And oh, he was right kind to me." She gied a sigh, sobbed aince or twice, And then her tender heart did brak in three.