

# The Ship that Never Returned

On a bright summ-er's morn-ing when the waves were ripp-ling in a soft, \_ si - lent breeze  
A \_ ship set \_ sail \_ with its prec - ious bur-den to a port be - yond the seas  
There were fond fare - wells \_ and \_ lov - ing sig-nals from \_ hearts where love still burned  
But they sailed a - way \_ with a smile and a bless-ing, the \_ ship that's never re - turned.

Chorus

For it's never re-turned\_ and it's never re-turned\_ and its fate is still un - - learned  
For from that day to this they've been wat - ching wait-ing for the ship that nev-er \_ re - turned.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'The Ship that Never Returned'. It consists of six staves of music in 4/4 time. The first four staves contain the verses, and the last two staves contain the chorus. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The music is written in a simple, folk-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

2. Said a pale-faced boy to his loving mother 'Let me cross the wild wild sea  
For they say that in a foreign country there is health and wealth for me.'  
She listened to him well with fond affection though her heart's tears to him yearned  
But she sent him forth with a mother's blessing in that ship that never returned.  
Chorus

3. 'Only one more trip' said the gallant sailor as he kissed his fond young wife  
'Only one more bag of that gold and treasure and we'll settle down for life  
Yes we'll leave this place for a little cottage and enjoy the wealth we've earned'  
But she never thought that her love would perish in the ship that never returned.  
Chorus

Source: William Ballinger, aged 80, Gloucester, 1957, collected by Brian Ballinger