

# If I Was a Blackbird

Silly Wizard version (Trad. Scottish)



Intro: 1st Line verse:

[Am] I am a young [Em] sailor, my [G] story is [Am] sad

Verse 1:

[Am] I am a young [Em] sailor, my [G] story is [Am] sad,  
Though once I was [Em] carefree and a [G] brave sailor [Am] lad,  
I courted a [Em] lassie by [G] night and by [Am] day,  
Oh but now she has [Em] left me, and [G] sailed far a-[Am]-way.

Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.

Verse 2:

[Am] Or if I was a [Em] scholar and could [G] handle the [Am] pen,  
One secret love [Em] letter to my [G] true love I'd [Am] send,  
And tell of my [Em] sorrow, my [G] grief and my [Am] pain  
Since she's gone and [Em] left me on yon [G] flowery [Am] glen.

Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.

Verse 3:

[Am] I sailed o'er the [Em] ocean, my [G] fortune to [Am] seek,  
Though I missed her ca-[Em]-ress and her [G] kiss on my [Am] cheek.  
I returned and I [Em] told her my [G] love was still [Am] warm

But she turned away [Em] lightly and [G] great was her [Am] scorn.

#### Instrumental Break Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.

#### Verse 4:

[Am] I offered to [Em] take her to [G] Donnybrook [Am] Fair  
And to buy her fine [Em] ribbons to [G] tie up her [Am] hair.  
I offered to [Em] marry and to [G] stay by her [Am] side  
But she says in the [Em] morning she [G] sails with the [Am] tide.

#### Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.

#### Verse 5:

[Am] My parents, they [Em] chide me, oh they [G] will not a-[Am]-gree,  
Saying that me and my [Em] false love, [G] married should never [Am] be.  
Oh, but let them de-[Em]-prive me, or let them [G] do what they [Am] will,  
While there's breath in my [Em] body she's the [G] one I love [Am] still.

#### Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.

#### Instrumental Chorus:

[Am] Oh, if I was a [Em] blackbird, could [G] whistle and [Am] sing,  
I'd follow the [Em] vessel my [G] true love sails [Am] in,  
And in the top [Em] riggin' I would [G] there build my [Am] nest,  
And I'd flutter my [Em] wings o'er her [G] lily-white [Am] breast.