

WHISKEY JOHNNY

This is a working chant of call and response that dates to the 16th century. Originally the words were Malmsey Johnny, but Queen Elizabeth I loved Irish whiskey so much that the words were changed to Whiskey Johnny.

Lyrics often changed over the years and some of these lyrics are undoubtedly from the late 17th or even the mid-18th century.

Whiskey Johnny



Oh Whiskey Is the life of man - Whiskey Johnny

Well I drink whiskey when I can - Whiskey for me Johnny

Oh Whiskey here and whiskey there - Whiskey Johnny

Oh whiskey whiskey everywhere - Whiskey for me Johnny

Whiskey up and whiskey down - Whiskey Johnny

Whiskey all around the town - Whiskey for me Johnny

I'll drink it hot I'll drink it cold - Whiskey Johnny

I'll drink it new I'll drink it old - Whiskey for me Johnny

Some like whiskey some like rum - Whiskey Johnny

Let's drink 'em both and have some fun - Whiskey for me Johnny

Me wife and I could never agree - Whiskey Johnny
She puts her whiskey in her tea - Whiskey for me Johnny

Whiskey made me sell my coat - Whiskey Johnny
Whiskey's what keeps me afloat - Whiskey for me Johnny

Whiskey gave me an achin' head - Whiskey Johnny
But I'll drink whiskey 'till I'm dead - Whiskey for me Johnny

If whiskey comes to near my nose - Whiskey Johnny
I'll tip it up and down she goes - Whiskey for me Johnny

Whiskey stole me brains away - Whiskey Johnny
The Boatswain shouts so I'll belay - Whiskey for me Johnny

There was a skipper by the name of Wink - Whiskey Johnny
Once tried to stop his sailor's drink - Whiskey for me Johnny

There was a skipper by the name of Hogg - Whiskey Johnny
Once tried to stop his sailor's grog - Whiskey for me Johnny

Which made the crew so weak and slack - Whiskey Johnny
The helmsman caught her flat aback - Whiskey for me Johnny

And ever after so they say - Whiskey Johnny
The crew go drink three times a day - Whiskey for me Johnny

A tot of whiskey for each man - Whiskey Johnny

And a bloody big barrel for the shanty man - Whiskey for me Johnny

