

He Played His Ukulele As The Ship Went Down - Arthur Le Clerq  
(1931)

**Intro: Last two lines of the verse**

**G** **Am**  
I'll tell you the tale of the Nancy Lee,  
**D** **G**  
The ship that got shipwrecked at sea  
**G** **Am**  
The bravest man was Captain Brown,  
**D** **G - G - G -**  
'Cause he played his ukulele as the ship went down **(Instrumental the last two lines)**

**Em** **Am** **Em**  
*All the crew were in despair,*  
**Em** **A7** **D**  
*Some rushed here and some rushed there,*  
**G** **Am**  
*But the Captain sat in the Captain's chair,*  
**D** **G - G - G -**  
*And he played his ukulele as the ship went down... { Yoho, my lads, Yo ho (x2) }*

**G** **Am**  
The crow's nest fell and killed the crow,  
**D** **G**  
The starboard watch was two hours slow  
**G** **Am**  
But the Captain sang Voh-doh-de-oh-doh  
**D** **G - G - G -**  
And he played his ukulele as the ship went down. **(Instrumental the last two lines)**

**Em** **Am** **Em**  
*The cook's gone mad and the bosun's lame*  
**Em** **A7** **D**  
*The rudder has gone and the deck's a flame*  
**G** **Am**  
*My G-string's flat, but all the same*  
**D** **G G G**  
*I shall play my ukulele as the ship goes down { Yoho, my lads, Yo ho (x2) }*

**G** .....  
The skipper shouted ( pause for laugh, spoken; 'fishermans friend')  
**G** **Am**  
The skipper shouted "No back chat!"  
**D** **G**  
I'll do my best and after that  
**G** **Am**  
D'you mind if I pass 'round the hat  
**D** **G - G - G -**  
As I play my ukulele as the ship goes down. **(Instrumental the last two lines)**

**Em** **Am Em**  
*They sprung a leak just after dark*  
**Em** **A7 D**  
*And through a hole came a hungry shark*  
**G Am**  
*It bit the Skipper near the water mark*  
**D G - G - G -**  
*As he played his ukulele when the ship went down. { Yoho, my lads, Yo ho (x2) }*

### Bridge

**G Am Am Am**  
 First mate had a saxophone  
**D G G G**  
 The cook had a trombone  
**G Am Am Am**  
 The drummer had an old tin  
**D G G G**  
 Another had a violin  
**G Am Am G**  
 The bosun had a banjo  
**G A7 A7 D**  
 The stoker had a piccolo

**G Am**  
*You can play what you like says Captain Brown*  
**D G G G**  
*I shall play the ukulele as the ship goes down. { Yoho, my lads, Yo ho (x2) }*

**G Am**  
 And that's the tale of the Nancy Lee  
**D G**  
 The ship that got shipwrecked at sea  
**G Am**  
 And Captain Brown who was in command  
**D G - G - G -**  
 Now plays his ukulele in the mermaid band

**G Am**  
 And that's the tale of the Nancy Lee  
**D G**  
 The ship that got shipwrecked at sea  
**G Am**  
 And Captain Brown who was in command  
**D G - G - G -**  
 And he played his ukulele as the ship went down. (slowly)