

# Unfortunate Miss Bailey

Words & Music:  
Traditional

E B7  
A captain bold from Halifax, who dwelt in country quarters,  
E B7  
Seduced a maid who hanged herself one morning in her garters.  
E B7  
His wicked conscience smited him, he lost his stomach daily.  
B7 E  
He took to drinking ratafia and thought upon Miss Bailey.

CHORUS:

E A E  
Oh! Miss Bailey, unfortunate Miss Bailey!  
E A E  
Oh! Miss Bailey, unfortunate Miss Bailey!

One night while sleeping on his ship, the captain heard a banging,  
He left his bed and went on deck, and saw Miss Bailey hanging.  
His candle just at twelve o'clock began to burn quite palely.  
And from the mast a ghost stepped down. Behold! It was Miss Bailey!

CHORUS:

“Away, Miss Bailey,” he implored, “You don't affright me, really.”  
“Dear Captain Smith,” the ghost replied, “you've used me ungentely.  
The coroner was hard on me, because I acted frailly,  
And Parson Biggs won't bury me, 'though I'm a dead Miss Bailey.”

CHORUS:

You won't believe me when I say, the captain got soft-hearted.  
He gave the ghost a five-pound note, with which she then departed.  
“'Twill bribe the sexton for my grave, and so I leave thee gaily,  
Oh bless you, wicked Captain Smith! Remember poor Miss Bailey.”

CHORUS: