

## Chicken on a Raft

By Cyril Tawney.

Chicken on a raft is Royal Navy slang for fried egg on fried bread; which is not very appetising if you have a hangover. 'Dab toes' = Ordinary Seaman, 'Dustman' = stoker/mechanic. Jimmy = First Lieutenant. Comic Cuts = orders (originally WWI British Army slang for Divisional Orders) Pusser = purser (notoriously tight fisted). Whaler = ship's boat.

1. The Skippers in the ward room drinking gin,  
hi ho *chicken on a raft*.  
I don't mind knockin' but I ain't going in,  
hi ho *chicken on a raft*.  
The Jimmy's laughing like a drain,  
hi ho *chicken on a raft*.  
Been looking at me Comic Cuts again,  
hi ho *chicken on a raft*.

### Chorus

*Up! Chicken on a raft on a Monday morning,  
Oh what a terrible sight to see.  
Dab toes for'ard and the dustman aft.  
A sittin' and a pickin' on a chicken on a raft.  
Hi ho chicken on a raft! Hey ho chicken on a raft!  
Hi ho chicken on a raft! Hey ho chicken on a raft.*

2. They gave me the middle and the forenoon too.  
And now I'm pulling in a whaler's crew.  
There's a seagull weaving overhead.  
I ought to be sleeping in a feather bed.

<more>

3. I had a little girl in Doneaglibe.  
And she did make a fool of me.  
Her heart was like a pusser's shower.  
From hot to cold in a quarter of an hour.

4. We kissed goodbye on the midnight bus.  
And she did not cry and she didn't make a fuss.  
Am I the man that she loves best?  
Or am I just a Cuckoo in another man's nest?

5. An Amazon girl lives in Dumfries.  
She only has her kids in twos and threes.  
Her sister lives in Maryhill.  
She says she won't *but I know she will*.