

## **Blow the Man Down**

(This is a 19th century sea shanty. Many versions of it exist. "Blow the man down" literally means hit him with your fist and knock him down. )

[C] Come all ya young fellers that follow the sea,  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down,*  
Now just pay attention and listen to me,  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

[C] Aboard the Black Baller\* I first served my time,  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down,*  
But on the Black Baller I wasted my time,  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

[C] We'd tinkers and tailors and sailors and all  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down,*  
That sailed for good seaman aboard the Black Ball.  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

[C] 'Tis larboard and starboard, on the deck you will crawl,  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down,*  
For Kicking Jack Williams commands the Black Ball.  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

[C] Now when the Black Baller's preparin' for sea  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down,*  
You'd bust your sides laughin' at the sights that you see.  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

[C] But when the Black Baller is clear of the land,  
*With a yo ho!* [G7] *Blow the man down.*  
Old Kicking Jack Williams gives ev'ry command  
*Give me some time to [C] blow the man down.*

\*According to "The Songs We Sang", the Black Ball ship line went from Boston, to New York to Philadelphia, to Liverpool, England from 1816 to 1878.