

# Folk Song: Cockles and Mussels

"Cockles and Mussels" The song tells the fictional tale of a fishmonger who plied her trade on the streets of Dublin, but who died young, of a fever. In the late 20th century a legend grew up that there was a historical Molly, who lived in the 17th century. This song has become an unofficial anthem for the beautiful city of Dublin.



*Molly Malone statue in Dublin Ireland*

In Dublin's fair city,  
Where the girls are so pretty,  
I first set my eyes on sweet Molly Malone,  
As she wheeled her wheel-barrow,  
Through streets broad and narrow,  
Crying, "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh!"  
"Alive, alive, oh,  
Alive, alive, oh,"  
Crying "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh".  
She was a fishmonger  
But sure 'twas no wonder  
For so were her father and mother before  
And they each wheel'd their barrow  
Through streets broad and narrow  
Crying "Cockles and mussels alive, alive oh!"  
(chorus)  
She died of a fever,  
And no one could save her,  
And that was the end of sweet Molly Malone.  
But her ghost wheels her barrow,  
Through streets broad and narrow,  
Crying, "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh!"

# Cockles and Mussels

Irish traditional song

Lively (♩ = c.120)

*mf*

Voice

1. In Dub - lin's fair  
2. She was a fish -  
3. She died of a

Piano

*mf*

4

ci - ty, Where girls are so pret - ty, I  
mong - er, But sure 'twas no won - der, For  
fev - er, And no one could save her, And

Piano

7

first set my eyes on sweet Mol - ly Mal - one, As she  
so were her fath - er and moth - er be - fore, And they  
that was the end of sweet Mol - ly Mal - one, But her

Piano

11

wheeled her wheel-bar-row Through streetsbroad and nar-row, Cry-ing,  
 each wheeled their bar-row Through streetsbroad and nar-row, Cry-ing,  
 ghost wheels her bar-row Through streetsbroad and nar-row, Cry-ing,

15

'Cock - les and mus - sels! A - live, a - live oh! A -  
 'Cock - les and mus - sels! A - live, a - live oh!  
 'Cock - les and mus - sels! A - live, a - live oh!

19

live, a - live oh!\_ A - live, a - live oh!\_ Cry-ing,

23

'Cock - les and mus - sels! A - live, a - live oh!'