Peterhead Fisherman's Wife

Wha wid be a fisherman's wife
Tae run wi a creel, an a scrubber, an a knife?
A raivelled bed, an a deid-oot fire
An awa tae the mussels in the mornin?

Chorus

Here we come scourin in
Three reefs tae the foresail in
Nae a dry stitch tae pit on wir backs
But still we're aa teetotallers

Wha'll gies a hand tae run a ripper-lead? Or fish for codlin in the Bay o Peterheid? Or maybe tae the Lummies, the Clock, or Satis Heid When we sail tae the sma lines in the mornin

It's doon the Gaidle Braes in the middle o the nicht Wi an auld syrup tin an a cannle for a licht Tae gether in the pullers, every een that is in sicht Tae get the linie baitit for the mornin

It's easy for the cobbler sittin in his neuk Wi a big copper kettle hingin frae a crook They're standin in the boo, we canna get a hook An it's gey sair work in the mornin

It's nae the kinda work that a saft quine'd thole Wi her fingers reid-raw wi scrubbin oot a yawl A little-een on her hip, an awa tae carry coal She'll be ca'd fair deen in the mornin

Ma puir auld faither in the middle o the flair He's dein hooks wi "tippins" as he's sittin in his chair They're made o horses hair, and that's the best o gear When ye gyang tae the fishin in the mornin

But I widna change for the grandest kind o gear
Tho ye never ken the minute that yer heart'll lowp wi fear
Awa tae the sea, he's your bonnie dear Ye'll be a widow wi his bairnies in the mornin