

# Navigator Lady

If you're tired of sail- ing as an old A B, see the Nav- ig- at- or  
 La- dy. She'll lay it out just like yer A B C, she's the Nav- ig- at- or  
 La- dy. So if it's nav- ig a- tion that you want to know, if you  
 want to tell your ship which way to go, if you want to tell your Cu- ba from your  
 Cal- la- o, see the Nav- ig- at- or La- dy.

If you're tired of sailing as an old AB,  
 See the Navigator Lady

She'll lay it out just like yer ABC,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

So if it's navigation that you want to know,  
 If you want to tell your ship which way to go,  
 If you want to tell your Cuba from your Callao,  
 See the Navigator Lady

Oh her Daddy was the skipper of a coastal sloop,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

She learned her trade upon the Old Man's poop,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

She learned about the tides around the coastal beds,  
 Learned to test the bottom with the sounding lead,  
 She learned to tell her Mousehole from her Mumbles Head,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

With her Navigator's ticket from the Board of Trade,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

She's come aboard as the anchor's weighed,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

With her old brass sextant and a brand new clock,  
 To see her on the afterdeck is something of a shock,  
 But she'll get you back from Norwich to the old North Dock,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

Now she's on shore and the Old Man's dead,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

She's setting up a school in the parlour instead,  
 She's the Navigator Lady

She'll teach you lots of things that you might find queer,  
 Like how to drink tomato juice instead of beer,  
 But to learn to get from Montreal to Mumbles Pier,  
 See the Navigator Lady

Some say a lady shouldn't be like that,  
 Like the Navigator Lady

Just go walkin' round town in a flowery hat  
 Not the Navigator Lady

There's ladies that will help you to spend your pay,  
 Ladies that will tell you to go away,  
 But to get from Santiago back to Swansea Bay  
 See the Navigator Lady

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Sarah Jane Rees from near Cardigan was the first woman to get a licence to act as an officer in the merchant navy, which she achieved in the 1860s. She later set up a school for ambitious sailors and taught them to pass their navigation exams. She was also a temperance campaigner and published writer, who produced and wrote a Welsh language periodical for women that ran for 13 years, until her death in 1916.

