

This album of original songs is for and about the women who are often marginalized, romanticized or just plain forgotten by sailors when they sing their songs of the sea. I'm trying to even up the playing field here. With the exception of Warrior Queen, these lyrics reflect a different perspective by presenting another side of some age-old stories.

Portsmouth Harbor encapsulates the yearnings of a woman left behind to deal with an unexpected mouth to feed and facing the censure of a community averse to unmarried mothers.

Mermaid's Lament suggests that the ladies of the sea may not be nearly so innocent as Disney would have us believe. Instead, I've heard tell they can be evil, vengeful, unforgiving creatures.

Wayward Wife marries for security, but ultimately trades nuptial bliss for a sole proprietorship in Baltimore, happy to raise her glass and drink to the single life.

Mad Jenny might be crazy, or she might just be angry. Hell hath no fury, they say, but I seriously doubt that even a woman scorned can unleash a storm powerful enough to wreck ships. You'll have to make up your own mind about that.

Twiddles is a turn-about tale, playing on that old adage about sailors and the girls they claim to have in every port.

Nasty Nell takes us back to mermaids. Don't mess with them or you'll be sorry. Just ask Bunky.

The Siren's Song reveals the truth about those lovely ladies singing on the seashore. Homer (remember the Odyssey?) was just making stuff up about them and their proclivities. Don't believe a word of it!

Warrior Queen reveals a woman who finally comes into her own after having vanquished self-doubt and quenched the furnace of her fears. It is a deeply personal song and really did come to me in a dream.

1. Portsmouth Harbor
2. Mermaid's Lament
3. Wayward Wife
4. Mad Jenny
5. Twiddles
6. Nasty Nell
7. The Siren's Song
8. Warrior Queen

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All tracks by Janie Meneely

Janie + Crab photo

All tracks PRS/MCPS

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Janie Meneely - vocals

Rob van Sante - backing vocals, guitar, baritone guitar, mandolin, keyboard, e-bow

Carole Etherton - backing vocals (The Siren's Song)

Lynda Hardcastle - backing vocals

Chris Noyes - backing vocals

Ciáran Boyle - bodhran (Twiddles)

Michael Doonan - piccolo

Recorded, edited, mastered and produced by Rob van Sante

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Finally, I especially want to thank the incredibly talented and oh so versatile Rob van Sante who spent countless hours slaving over these recordings, adding his own musical prowess to the mix and making everything sound incredible. I am the luckiest of ladies to have this guy by my side on stage and in my life. Sic semper sit, amica mea. Teneo te in corde meo.