

Cruel War (as sung by Peter, Paul, and Mary)

**The cruel war is raging; Johnny has to fight.
I want to be with him from morning till night.
I want to be with him, it grieves my heart so.
Won't you let me go with you? "No, my love, no."**

**Tomorrow is Sunday; Monday is the day
That your captain will call you, and you must obey.
Your captain will call you, it grieves my heart so.
Won't you let me go with you? "No, my love, no."**

**I'll tie back my hair; men's clothing I'll put on.
I'll pass as your comrade as we march along.
I'll pass as your comrade, no one will ever know.
Won't you let me go with you? "No, my love, no."**

**Oh Johnny, oh Johnny, I fear you are unkind.
I love you far better than all of mankind.
I love you far better than words can e'er express.
Won't you let me go with you? "Yes, my love, yes!"
oooooo "Yes, my love, yes!"**

The Cruel War" was reportedly sung during the Revolutionary War and was most certainly found on both sides during Civil War times; it was considered a potent protest song during the Vietnam War as well. It's said that the tune was brought over from the British Isles and adapted in America in the early 1700's.