

Napster Piracy

Lyrics ©2000 Stephen Savitzky. Some Rights Reserved¹.

To the tune of *Barrett's Privateers* by Stan Rogers

Oh the year was Nineteen Ninety Eight

How I wish I was on Freenet now

When people first heard of MP3

And music out on the Web for free.

God damn them all! I was told

You download all your computer can hold

We'd take our music and pay no fee

Now I owe three years' pay in royalty

Because of Napster piracy

Shawn Fanning he wrote a program kewl

How I wish I was on Freenet now

A fairly trivial piece of code

For sharing files from node to node

But the clever part was the Napster site

How I wish I was on Freenet now

Where people could trade their songs for free

And pay not a nickle of royalty.

So I got a big disk and a cable line

How I wish I was on Freenet now

Then I logged on and began to get

The biggest collection on the net

There were thousands of songs there up for
grabs

How I wish I was on Freenet now

I was hooked up in one of the fastest ways

But to fill a hundred gig took two whole days

At length they were sued by RIAA

How I wish I was on Freenet now

They said "You have done us many wrongs

To go and make copies of all our songs."

But Napster said "There's no music here."

How I wish I was on Freenet now

"We're a kind of search engine, don't you
know.

(Our users may have some trouble, though)"

So it looks like Napster may get off clean

How I wish I was on Freenet now

I laughed 'til the summons came down for me

And the charge they made was piracy.

Well I learned my lesson and paid my fine

How I wish I was on Freenet now

But they can't take my MP3's away

'Cause I got Gnutella yesterday.

¹This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 US License.
20000806