

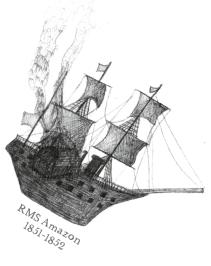
GOD'S HOUSE TOWER EDITION

Town Quay Road



Published in February of 2022 and gifted as a public domain song for all to perform, record, adapt, edit and rearrange, without the requirement of a licence.





When I Grow Up I Want To Be A Ship

Music by Emily Peasgood Words by Kate Lynn-Devere and Emily Peasgood



My granny said that people sailed who couldn't swim because the Ships were built so big and strong they'd never sink but still The custom of the sea claimed Richard Parker, just a boy like Me and granny thinks I ought to swim before I sail but I sit here and dream

My granny said that folk were sure the sea would cure their ills but
Mummy says the sea's a cure that saves less than it kills like
Mary Rogers, who went down while saying: "Lord, have me!"
Her lifebelt given away to save another from the sea while I sit here and dream

4.
At God's House Tower I sit and watch them steal the beach to build the Docks are very big and strong just like my daddy said that I should be a man, I'll make my fortune on the sea
When I grow up I want to be a ship that's big and strong so I'll sit here and dream

My mummy says I ought to learn to walk before I run and Learn the ropes as a cabin boy, that sea life's not all fun, and If my ship is lost at sea, will sailors swallow me like Richard Parker was a cabin boy, he'll never run at all

Performance note: This score presents the core melody which can be sung as a duet with overlapping lines, or as a round song. Some verses omit the indicated bar, stop earlier or have an extra line. Interpret them freely. The melody can sit over an A drone and sounds ethereal with Am, F and D chords. But do interpret flexibly and make it your own. This song is free to record, adapt and perform, but the writers must always be credited.

6.

My daddy was an engineer who sailed upon the sea un-Till one day it took away his life, it was his desti-Kneeling in the engine room beyond the ocean waves, he's Lost beneath the sea that mummy says kills far more than it saves

7.
For once upon a time when I was young the docks were filled with Light and colour and masts and funnels, everything was bright I dreamed of being a ship when I grew up, my heart was filled with pride But dreamers wake when storm clouds break, to find their dreams have died I dreamed of being a ship when I grew up and it was all a lie

> My daddy said a man should sail to make his fortune on the See, but when my daddy died all that he made was misery But what else can I do? What else is there for men like me? 'Cause daddy said a man should sail...

Some sail away to leave behind a troubled hearth at home for Home is where the heart is meant to be and sailors have to Roam away from lovers, and a man needs time to think of All the ways to get lost at sea and all the ships that sink and I don't want to die

I watched them raise his boat from where it lay beneath the waves and Saw them weigh a chance for profit where I saw his grave My father said I ought to seek my fortune on the sea but If my ship is lost will greed and cold hard profit swallow me?

They built these docks on land where pirates hanged on gallows in the Sand-washed by three tides to see them drown before they cut them Down below the water father lay a year before they Came to raise the wreck, shown less respect than any buccaneer

For once upon a time the skies above the docks were filled with Light and colour and masts and funnels, everything was bright and Every heart was filled with pride to see the ships so tall but That was only a dream and now there is no light at all

13.

They say in twenty-fifty, when the sea begins to rise The docks and God's House Tower will be lost beneath the tide I sat and watched them build the docks, they built them strong and true These docks they stand on borrowed land and now the debt we owe is due

14.

We built these docks on borrowed land, we pushed the sea away but Hubris leads to nemesis, all glory fades to grey, and When the first tide reaches in it will take back what's due and With the second tide the docks will sink into the blue and we sit here and dream

Optional interlude by Tabitha Liu

Tides rise and fall Flush on shore, racks and bones Airless dark under deck

Tides rise and fall Wash up body, tumours, spots Swollen rat, noses around

Tides rise and fall Swallow Titanic, ships and wrecks Rusty ship rails, sink and sleep and Panic crews cry and scream

Tides rise and fall Float up bottle, bags and caps Plastic particle diffuses and flows

5 Tides rise and fall Grow up coral, pale and thick 3-eyed fishes, choke and hooked





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