

The Great Salish Sea  
By Dana Lyons  
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C  
We will swim a thousand miles  
Am  
To reach the shores of emerald isles  
Em  
With salmon spawning by the million  
F G  
Herring spawning by the billion  
C  
Gather with our pods again  
Am  
The summer food, the summer friends  
Em  
To raise our babies safe and free  
F G  
We gather in the Salish Sea

C  
Oh hush hear the swish of the boats on the water  
Am  
The hollowed out cedars, the sons and the daughters  
Em  
The rhythm of paddles caressing the water  
F G  
The rhythm of paddles to come greet the orca  
C  
Remember the legend, the myth and the story  
Am  
A long time ago when we witnessed the glory  
Em  
With thousands and thousands of whales swimming free  
F G C  
The orcas come home to the great Salish Sea

I hear your song for many miles  
Your distant thoughts, your distant smiles  
Today we fish in different bays  
Tonight we meet again to play

Oh hush hear the swish of the boats on the water  
The great sailing ships with the sons and the daughters  
The wind and the wood as it cuts through the water

The wind and the wood sailing out to the orca  
Remember the legend, the myth and the story  
A long time ago when we witnessed the glory  
With thousands and thousands of whales swimming free  
The orcas come home to the great Salish Sea

One hundred times around the sun  
I saw the slaughter, smelled the blood  
The water turning blue to brown  
The metal ships, the screaming sound  
I cannot hear your song today  
The salmon gone, the herring late  
And more and more the ships do come  
Will anybody hear my song

Oh hush hear the scream of the ships on the water  
The great super tankers, the coal ports, the freighters  
The deafening noise overtaking the water  
The deafening noise overcoming the orca  
Remember the legend, the myth and the story  
A long time ago when we witnessed the glory  
With thousands and thousands of whales swimming free  
The orcas come home to the great Salish Sea

Oh hush hear the voice from both sides of the border  
The rallies, the blockades, the brave sons and daughters  
The people speak out for protecting the water  
The people are rising to come save the orca

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