

EASTERN GAP

(words & music Mike Ford SOCAN 2007)

Down along the docks and the city's underside
By the shipping channel after school I ride
Watchin' as the waves roll up against the rocks
From the inner harbour and the old Sugar Docks
And the grain elevators comes an Algoma freighter
Headin' out as the day is done
And a golden light catches the red and orange of the hatches
And the long black hull in the setting sun

OH SOMEBODY SHOUT BIG BOAT IS HEADIN' OUT
OH HEAR MY SONG BIG BOAT TAKE ME ALONG

I can see a silhouette standin' at the wheelhouse glass
Sailors at the winches as she rolls on past
A couple of 'em hanging in the haze on the pointed bow
She'll be past the island any minute now
And along the fore-deck and after camaraderie and laughter
Echoes to the breaker wall where I stand
And I wonder what the load is and if they ever notice
When I give a little wave with my hand

OH SOMEBODY SHOUT BIG BOAT IS HEADIN' OUT
OH HEAR MY SONG BIG BOAT TAKE ME ALONG

Standing at the Eastern Gap I watch her go
I'll be doing something quite the same one day I know
From the temper and the tower of the town I'll take my leave
The other guys at school, they don't believe
That a harbour has a reason – well they'll understand next season
In my corner, see an empty chair
And through the locks and the St. Lawrence I'll let the path of providence
Take me to tomorrow way out there

OH SOMEBODY SHOUT BIG BOAT IS HEADIN' OUT
OH HEAR MY SONG BIG BOAT TAKE ME ALONG