

# The Downeaster Alexa

Billy Joel

Well I'm on the Downeaster "Alexa"  
And I'm cruising through Block Island Sound  
I have chartered a course to the Vineyard  
But tonight I am Nantucket bound

We took on diesel back in Montauk yesterday  
And left this morning from the bell in Gardner's Bay  
Like all the locals here I've had to sell my home  
Too proud to leave I worked my fingers to the bone

So I could own my Downeaster "Alexa"  
And I go where the ocean is deep  
There are giants out there in the canyons  
And a good captain can't fall asleep

I've got bills to pay and children who need clothes  
I know there's fish out there but where God only knows  
They say these waters aren't what they used to be  
But I've got people back on land who count on me

So if you see my Downeaster "Alexa"  
And if you work with the rod and the reel  
Tell my wife I am trolling Atlantis  
And I still have my hands on the wheel

Now I drive my Downeaster "Alexa"  
More and more miles from shore every year  
Since they told me I can't sell no stripers  
And there's no luck in swordfishing here

I was a bayman like my father was before  
Can't make a living as a bayman anymore  
There ain't much future for a man who works the sea  
But there ain't no island left for islanders like me