

# Ship of Fools

Elvis Costello

Went to see the captain, strangest I could find  
Laid my proposition down, laid it on the line  
I won't slave for beggar's pay, likewise gold and jewels  
But I would slave to learn a way to sink your ship of fools

Ship of fools on a cruel sea  
Ship of fools sail away from me  
It was later than I thought when I first believed you  
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools

Saw your first ship sink and drown from rocking of the boat  
And all that could not sink or swim were just left there to float  
at  
I won't leave you drifting down but oh, it makes me wild  
With thirty years upon my head to have you call me child

Ship of fools on a cruel sea  
Ship of fools sail away from me  
It was later than I thought when I first believed you  
Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools

The bottle stands as empty as it was filled before  
Time there was and plenty, but from that cup no more  
Though I could not caution all, I still might warn a few  
Don't lend your hand to raise no flag atop no ship of fools

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Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools