

# Pleasures Of The Harbor

Phil Ochs

And the ship sets the sail  
They've lived the tale  
To carry to the shore  
Straining at the oars  
Or staring from the rail

And the sea bids farewell  
She waves in swells  
And sends them on their way  
Time has been her pay  
And time will have to tell

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

And the anchor hits the sand  
The hungry hands  
Have tied them to the port  
The hour will be short  
For leisure on the land

And the girls scent the air  
They seem so fair  
With paint on their face  
Soft is their embrace  
To lead them up the stairs

Soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

In the room dark and dim  
Touch of skin  
He asks her of her name  
She answers with no shame  
And not a sense of sin

'Til the fingers draw the blinds  
Sip of wine  
The cigarette of doubt  
The candle is blown out  
The darkness is so kind

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

And the shadows frame the light  
Same old sight  
Thrill has blown away  
Now all alone they lay  
Two strangers in the night

Till his heart skips a beat  
He's on his feet  
To shipmates he must join  
She's counting up the coins  
He's swallowed by the street

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

In the bar hangs a cloud  
The whiskey's loud  
There's laughter in their eyes  
The lonely in disguise  
Are clinging to the crowd

And the bottle fills the glass  
The haze is fast  
He's trembling for the taste  
Of passion gone to waste  
In memories of the past

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

In the alley, red with rain  
Cry of pain  
For love was but a smile  
Teasing all the while  
Now dancing down the drain

'Til the boys reach the dock  
They gently mock  
And lift him on their backs  
Lay him on his rack  
And leave beneath the light

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor

And the ship sets the sail  
They've lived the tale  
To carry from the shore  
Straining at the oars  
Or staring from the rail

And the sea bids farewell  
She waves in swells  
And sends them on their way  
Time has been her pay  
And time will have to tell

Oh, soon your  
Sailing will be over  
Come and take  
The pleasures of the harbor