

## Black Day In December

Said the Whale

Mermaid sits on a Siwash Rock in the harbour  
watching the children play  
Every day, sun or rain  
Old man kneels to the earth to pray  
for the rain and the stars and the cars at the heart  
A dark and windy Vancouver  
A black day in December

She sees the worst is yet to come  
A big wave on the horizon  
The first wind blowing in  
Left Stanley's soldiers felled and broken

Old man kneels to the earth in his mother's garden  
Where his own father was laid  
Every day, sun or rain  
Mermaid sits on her rock and she prays  
For the salmon in the sea, for the winged in the trees  
For the old man on his knees  
For the beauty in the park, and the cars at the heart  
Her own sisters and her brothers  
And ten thousand friends and lovers  
A black day in December.

Mermaid sits on a tide washed rock in the harbour  
where the Blue Heron would lay  
Everyday sun or rain  
old friends fall to the earth and decay  
With the city by the sea  
Sweet brine in the breeze  
And the mountains watching over her Vancouver  
A black day in December