

Overboard

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I

This ship is lost at sea
We the People, trapped in transit
Time-traversing refugees
Dreams deferred, and then abandoned

Has the weight of this great nation
Forced your eyes toward the ground
Have you bent beneath the burden
Of this skin, this shameless brown

*You walked alone in search of home
The journey wore you thin
Brother, I'll reach overboard
And pull you safely in*

II

A generation echoes
From the depths of ocean graves
Unnatural disaster
And we wonder who's to blame

We share this sacred oxygen
We're all trying to breathe
Hands lifted in surrender
To a ruthless, raging sea

*You walked alone in search of home
The journey wore you thin
Brother, I'll reach overboard
And pull you safely in*

III

Neatly sectioned city blocks,
Triangles in the sea
This journey is amorphous,
Changing shape by century

Finally the compass found
We trace this chalk, our map
The shape of loss immeasurable
Now etched into our path

*You walked alone in search of home
The journey wore you thin
Brother, I'll reach overboard
And pull you safely in*

IV

These shackles will be silhouettes,

The voyage soon will cease

Brother, take my hand

And Love will guide us through the deep