

## Kraken

We'd been hours at the chase when she sounded  
Showed flukes and she dived down below  
The bold harpooneer kept his watch far and near  
But she never came back up to blow  
All night we lay by in the whaleboats  
And we saw no spouts, though the weather was clear  
Our ropes they lay coiled as a fortune in oil  
Disappeared like she never was there

*There's many strange things on the ocean  
And a lost ship can never be found  
So hoist up your glass and remember, my boys  
That night on the Japanese ground*

At dawn the ship came to collect us  
By evening we saw spouts once more  
The mate was a-cursing, each man's lungs were bursting  
As he mightily hauled on his oar  
The harpoon was darted, and we were made fast  
And the line snapped tight as she did run  
And she made for the depths after one final breath  
As out of the tub the line spun

### *Chorus*

Now any old whaler can tell you  
That even the strongest old bull  
Has the depth he can dive before he must arise  
And pay for his boldness in full  
Whales dive deep, but the whale-lines are longer  
As greenhorns and whalemens all know  
So we gazed open-mouthed as the line it ran out  
And at once we were dragged down below

### *Chorus*

In terror we kicked, treading water  
And called out for the other two boats  
By the grace of the Lord we were soon hauled on board  
And shaken, but safely afloat

Once more we saw our ship returning  
In the bright crimson light of the dawn  
Then the seabirds rose shrieking at once as if speaking  
That something was dreadfully wrong

*Chorus*

All at once the sea boiled for furlongs around  
Like a drunk the ship started to sway  
And a hundred long arms, each one white as a corpse  
Coiled out from deep under the waves  
In a moment they'd wrapped all around her  
In a grasp so impossibly strong  
And she gave one last groan and she heeled on her side  
And in one dreadful moment was gone

*Chorus*

After two days adrift in the whaleboats  
A Portugese sighted us there  
We were taken on board and dropped in the Azores  
As back to their home they repaired  
In New Bedford they cursed us as liars  
And the owners denied us our fee  
But be damned to you all, for I know what I saw  
And I'll never go back on the sea

*Chorus*

**Composed by: Alex Sturbaum**

**Appears on *Loomings* (bonus track)**

*A song about a whaleship that encounters a kraken. The placement on the Japanese whaling grounds is a nod to Dr. Tsunemi Kubodera, who captured the first images of a giant squid in its natural habitat in the deep waters off Japan.*