

## Steve Forbert "The Oil Song"

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"Oh the engine's gone dead," cried the men who work  
there

And she passed up the dock on the wide Delaware  
Then the ship ran aground and the oil got away  
And they penned that report, "The big spill" on that day

It was hundreds of thousands of gallons galore  
Stretching thirty-two miles down the Delaware shore  
There were geese in the marshes out looking for food  
They got stuck where they stood in the oncoming crude

And it's oil, oil  
Ah, drifting to the sea  
Oil, oil

Don't buy it at the station  
You can have it now for free  
Just come on down to the shoreline  
Where the water used to be

In the well-charted waters of the Nantucket shoals  
Was a ship run aground full of oil, we were told  
In a week's worth of rough winter weather and waves  
The boat started cracking and it could not be saved

It was seven-point-six million gallons this time  
Consider the danger and think of the crime  
As it poured out a slick stretching into the tide  
Over one hundred-miles and yes, it came deep, it  
came wide

And it's oil, oil  
Oil pouring in the sea  
Oil, oil

Oh, don't buy it at the station  
You can have it now for free  
Just come on down to the shoreline  
Where the water used to be

There's talk of some writing found in the ship's log  
Saying one of the helmsmen's unfit for his job

And the ship's gyro compass was six degrees shy  
Their charts were outdated but they, they tried to get  
by

And you know it's oil, oil  
Yeah, pouring in the sea  
Oil, oil

Don't buy it at the station  
You can have it now for free  
Just come on down to the shoreline  
Where the water used to be, yeah

Now both of these ships, like a great many more  
Got registered in through Liberian doors  
Inspections are quick and regulations are few  
Just sign on the line and go find you a crew, yes

One of these ships was the Olympic Games  
The Argo Merchant was the other one's name  
Well, it's sad, but it's true, things got worse for the  
seas  
'Cause I ain't even mentioned Amoco Cadiz

Amoco Cadiz, between England and France  
The big super tanker out there taking it's chance  
Within one hundred thousand black tons of the slime  
Amoco Cadiz spilled the most of all time

Yes, you know it's oil, oil  
Man, it's creepin' in the sea  
Oil, oil

Oh, don't buy it at the station  
You can have it now for free  
Just come on down to the shoreline  
Where the water used to be

Now down in the Gulf east of Mexico way  
There's something gone wrong, so the papers all say  
A Mexican oil well is leaking it's goo  
They say it's the worse that things have ever come to

Yes, it's gallons of sludge, sixty million and more  
It's cruising and oozing towards many a shore  
Yes, things have got bad but they will probably get  
worse  
If you can't drink the oil, oh, you might, you might die  
of thirst

Because it's oil, it's oil

And it's creeping in the sea  
Oil, oil

Don't buy it at the station  
You can have it now for free  
Just come on down to the shoreline  
Where the water used to be, yeah

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