

## The Downtown Fiction

### "Arkansas"

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The designers of the Arkansas  
Were inspired to choose a form that was  
The exact dimensions and the shape  
Of the state whose name she bore.

Yes, the ship was shaped like Arkansas,  
And the hull was formed without a flaw.  
Every detail had been reproduced  
On a scale of one to one.

I was on the coast of Arkansas  
When I saw her colors from the shore,  
And I sadly waved my handkerchief  
As the ship began to sing:

"I'm the ship that's shaped like Arkansas  
And my hull was formed without a flaw.  
Every detail has been reproduced  
On a scale of one to one.

"Avast, me hearties!  
Ahoy, me state!  
Ahoy, there! Avast, there!  
Ahoy, there, me hearties!"

When the rising tide engulfs the shore  
And the waves roll over Arkansas,  
Will the ship return to anchor there  
And replace the sunken state?

For the ship was shaped like Arkansas,  
And the hull was formed without a flaw.  
Every detail had been reproduced  
On a scale of one to one.

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