**FOR TOM/FRIEND OF THE FISHERMAN**

God speed old friend.

God knows you sail

With all our love and care.

Alas!

No more returns to port.

Rejoice!

For those great captains who,

Like you,

Lead us,

Help us,

Bring us to

A Moment’s Harbor in the Night

Embark on this great voyage with joy.

Not sorrow but calm.

No fear beyond.

One dares to venture on.

To help more souls,

As those you’ve saved

In this pale mist,

Know not when or where.

But know as sure

As each sun sets

The dawn brings forth the day.

We too will feel

Your warmth once more.

Beach our ships on a distant shore.

Walk these sands as once before.

Link hands and hearts.

Pray.

Today a forest giant fell.

Our shelter from the storm.

A great captain’s vessel breached

Those waves life’s currents form.

But from the trunk

New seedlings sprout.

Waves become the rain.

Like you.

To nourish life from death.

Rapture from the pain.

God speed old friend.

Till we join again.

On this timeless boundless main.

*PHILLIP PAUL. 02/26/2000*

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