

# Pete Townshend, The Sea Refuses No River

I remember being richer than a king  
The minutes of the day were golden  
I recall that when the joint passed round  
My body felt a little colder  
But now I'm like a sewer channel - running lime and scag  
Let me get at the master panel - let me at my stack

The sea refuses no river  
And right now this river's banks are blown  
The sea refuses no river  
Whether stinking and rank  
Or red from the tank  
Whether pure as a spring  
There's no damned thing stops the poem  
The sea refuses no river  
And this river is homeward flowing

I have seen a trace of strain  
In other's eyes not spoken  
I must admit that I enjoyed their pain  
But this time it's me that's broken  
I demand for you and His  
This must be the time  
When we decide what freedom is  
Turn water into wine

For the sea refuses no river  
We're polluted now but in our hearts still clean  
The sea refuses no river  
We tried not to age  
But time had it's rage  
We're washed over stones  
From babes into clones of the mean  
The sea won't refuse this muddy river  
Nor deny the sulfurous stream

There was a fool in a dressing robe  
Riding out the twilight hour  
Lonely and cold in an empty home  
Trying to assess his power  
But now he's like a stream in flood  
Swollen by the storm  
He doesn't care if he sheds his blood  
Let him be reborn

For the sea refuses no river  
Remember that when the beggar buys a round  
The sea refuses no river  
And rain fills the gutters  
No time for stutters  
This is our chance  
To sing and to dance and to clown  
The sea refuses no river  
And rivers were sprung to drown

The sea refuses no river  
No pecking code respected for the damned  
The sea refuses no river  
Whether starving or ill  
Or strung on some pill  
Just 'cos you own the land  
There's no unique hand plugs the dam  
The sea refuses no river  
And the river is where I am

The river is where I am.