The Fisherman

Leo Kottke

I heard your voice at midnight By the river shore I saw your child sleeping Behind an open door The moon was in the river Shining up from the floor And the fish swam like moonlight Through your child's closing door And morning is the long way home The fisherman was drowning By his broken heel His screams were tiny bubbles And his tongue made of steel When he died his teeth made stones For your lonely child to feel And his eyes like prayers were quiet When you heard his tongues of steel And morning is the long way home The ghost of ghosts was passing And the grasses waved like hair I Knew I'd die forgotten I'm the whisper of your care The water would surround me And my body would despair But my heart would understand The door that's closing there

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And morning is the long way home