

## Shipbuilding

Elvis Costello

Is it worth it?  
A new winter coat and shoes for the wife  
And a bicycle on the boy's birthday  
It's just a rumour that was spread around town  
By the women and children  
Soon we'll be shipbuilding.....  
Well I ask you  
The boy said "Dad they're going to take me to task,  
but I'll be back by Christmas"  
It's just a rumour that was spread around town  
Somebody said that someone got filled in  
For saying that people get killed in  
The result of this shipbuilding  
With all the will in the world  
Diving for dear life  
When we could be diving for pearls  
It's just a rumour that was spread around town  
A telegram or a picture postcard  
Within weeks they'll be re-opening the shipyards  
And notifying the next of kin  
Once again  
It's all we're skilled in  
We will be shipbuilding.....  
With all the will in the world  
Diving for dear life  
When we could be diving for pearls.