

# The Day We Lost the America's Cup

Tom Paxton

On the day we lost the America's Cup  
And the glory slipped away  
I went for a walk in the city  
To see what the man in the street might say  
I found a likely lookin' chap  
Who agreed to talk with me  
He wore a beret and coal-black shades  
And Billy go-go Tee  
There's news from Newport sir says I  
I give it you to straight  
Australia won the America's Cup  
We had too little too late  
The little guy turns his lamps on me  
All blood-shot red and blue  
You say we lost the America's cup  
Did we lose the saucer too  
He said, I did not know we lost the cup  
I tell you one thing more  
I didn't know we had the cup  
What the damn thing's for  
For sailing boats - you're putting me on  
And them Captain Andy hats  
And they called that rub-a-dub-dub a race  
Hell I could walk as fast that  
You say Australia won the cup  
You tell me what it cost  
One thing you ain't told me Jack  
Is who it is that lost  
Yeah, who are the souls who lost the cup  
And had to let go  
The New York Yacht Club did you say  
Please tell me it ain't so  
So the New York Yacht Club blew the tin  
And the flag at half-mast waves  
Jack, please excuse my lack of tears  
But some of them cats owned slaves  
They got houses big as Rhode Island  
They got blood as blue as the sky  
And I hope they wore their Sunday best  
To kiss the cup goodbye  
We had the cup how long you say  
A hundred and thirty-two years  
And now Australia won the cup  
And filled it with Foster beers  
And now the yacht club's dark and cold  
And now it's draped in black  
I hope it takes 'em it twice as long  
To get the damn thing back  
Yeah I feel for all them yacht club studs  
Says the little guy to me  
The sight of that empty trophy case  
Will be a heavy sight to see  
It must be hell to lose the cup  
When you had it for so long....  
He took his saxophone out of its case  
And he played a sad little song.....  
It went