

Still Waters

Performed by Benny Graham and Jeff Dennison

Benny says: 'A beautiful song about the decline of the canals and their trade leaving only the still tranquil waters.'

Written by our friend Ian Hartland of the Harvesters.'

Lyrics:

Verse 1 In a world that moves too quickly, there's a refuge for the sane
When the load becomes too heavy, or your day is filled with pain
You can measure out the silence in a cup of any size
Or travel any distance, where the speed is not the prize
You can watch the sun come rising over flights of wooden gates
Or setting gold behind the waterways

Chorus: In the shining of still waters not a ripple can be seen
To mark the passing of another day

Verse 2 In the hearts of dirty cities and the peaceful countryside
Behind the smoky factories or through the meadows wide
The boatmen and the horses brought the coal and other freight
And travelled through the country at a slow but steady rate
But the coming of the railways meant more profits quickly made
And obsolescence stalked the waterways

Chorus: In the shining of still waters not a ripple can be seen
To mark the passing of another day

Verse 3 From the Kennet and the Avon, to the Thames and Severn too
The grass is growing over where the narrowboats came through
And the tunnels long abandoned are now empty, dark and cold
And echo to the wild winds all the songs they heard of old.
The boots no longer ring out as they tramp the tunnel walls
No horses' hooves are heard along the way.

Chorus: In the shining of still waters not a ripple can be seen
To mark the passing of another day

Verse 4 Farewell the horse and harness, the windlass and the lock
The castles and the roses, the aqueduct and dock
The boats that ply the waters are for pleasure not for gain
And the families of the waterways will not be seen again
In every town and village there's an emptiness within
As the echoes of the boatmen fade away

Chorus: In the shining of still waters not a ripple can be seen
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