

The Net
Gordon Bok

[Intro]

A

[Verse]

My wings were blue in the ocean green
The prettiest thing you ve ever seen
The gurnet said to the catfish
Rose were my legs and rose my sides
And who would have thought as I roved the tide
Where the red crab watched me scuttle and glide
I would come to dance in a net?

[Verse]

The fisherman stands by the water and chuckles
Clams are his ears and limpets his knuckles
The gurnet said to the catfish
The beard of a mussel droops from his chin
The scales of a mackerel cling to his skin
And his eyes roll out and his eyes roll in
As he watches us dance in the net

[Verse]

His eyes are hard as berries of kelp
But sweet is his daughter who comes to help
The gurnet said to the catfish
They take the ropes in their lean brown hands
And haul us out on the shine of the sands

And the girl she laughs as the fisherman stands

D

A

And watches us dance in the net

[Bridge]

A A7 D D7 G

[Verse]

C

F

C

Let her hang up her clothes on a gooseberry bush

F

C

Where the waves say crush and the foam says hush

G7

C

The gurnet said to the catfish

F

C

The surf is red with struggle and slaughter

F

C

But somewhere on earth or in sky or in water

Dm

The scaly man and his long-legged daughter

F

C

Will come to dance in a net

[Instrumental]

C Dm G

[Verse]

C

F

C

The fishes dance to the fisherman s tune

F

C

The waters run to the pull of the moon

G7

C

And the gurnet said to the catfish

F

C

The air and the sand at the edge of the tide

F

C

The fisherman s daughter, dancing in pride

Dm

With her rosy legs and her rosy side

F

C

Is less than a fish in the net

[Bridge]

C G Am A7

[Verse]

D

G

D

For somewhere, glaring in wastes of space

G

D

There s a terrible eye in an empty face

A7

D

The gurnet said to the catfish

G

D

And round and round in the spell of that stare

G D

Flashing and slashing and biting the snare

Em

Go all the glittering shoals of the air

G D

Dancing like fish in the net

[Verse]

G D

So somebody sits in space and chuckles

G D

With hair like a comet and stars for knuckles

A7 D

The gurnet said to the catfish

G D

And glimmer of side and swirl of fin

G D

His arms are huge as he hauls them in

Em

And his teeth are sharks in a mile wide grin

G D

As he watches them dance in the net

[Bridge]

D D7 G

[Verse]

C F C

There I m going and there go you

F C

I with my wings of butterfly blue

G7 C

The gurnet said to the catfish

F C

The moon comes by and he swallows it whole

F C

And there is the girl with wings on her soul

Dm

And now it s the fisher, and the great eyes roll

F C

As he watches them dance in the net