

Ship of Stone

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Am
Once there was a Ship of Stone
That orbitted a mighty star
Am G Am Em Am
And from it flew the first ship's crew
Em Am
Whose children we all are;
C
And no matter how long
G6
We've drawn our track,
Am Em
Still over our shoulder, looking back
Am
Through the hydrogen's hiss
G6 Esus4
And the methane's moan,
D5 G C
Past the polymer clouds
G C G6 F
Of the dead stars' shrouds,
C G Am Em Am
All our roads run back to the Ship of Stone.
Am
There the first crew all were made
G6
And wakened from unknowing sleep
Am G Am Em Am
By the boundless sight of Heaven's height
Em Am
And the fires on the deep;
C
And no matter how strange
G6
the forms we wear,
Am Em
How warped and wild, how rich and rare,
Am G6 Esus4
How changed we've made the seed we've sown;
D5 G C G C G6 F
We are blood of those who singing rose
C G Am Em Am
From the body of the Ship of Stone.

Am
There our own ships' frames were formed
G6
To grow blue glowing wings,
Am G Am Em Am
And spread them wide to the farthest tide
Em Am
Where the last, lone beacon sings;
C G6
And no matter how tight the net they knot
Am Em
Of our web where the wheel of light is caught,
Am
How strange and lost,
G6 Esus4
How grand they've grown,
D5 G C G C G6 F
They too desire all Heaven's fire:
C G Am Em Am
Our companions since the Ship of Stone.

one verse instrumental

Am
Once there was a Ship of Stone,
C Am G6
Clear-domed, broad-hulled, and clean,
C G Am
Where the air shone blue,
Em Am
Through whose holds birds flew,
G6 Em Am
Whose decks were growing green;
C
And no matter how odd
G6
These things may seem,
Am Em
As madly mazed as shards of dream,
no drum on these two lines
Am G6 Esus4
They are not a dream that you dream alone—
D5 G C G C G6 F
All ships, all men are of one kin;
C G Am Em Am
We shall not forget the Ship of Stone.

If any of the songs we filkers are writing and singing now deserves to be remembered a thousand years from now, this is it. My all-time favorite.