Lost to Coal

Bill Troxler

               Am

❶ From Hampton Roads up to Buzzard's Bay

Appalachian gold makes its way
            F   **Em**
In a winter gale on a ship too old
C   **Dm**   **Am**
   Thirty-one men were lost to coal.

On the looward side past Ft. Monroe
Point Comfort Light in the gathering snow
The razor wind would take your breath
The *Marine Electric* is bound for death.

At Blackfish Bank, off Virginia's shore
The waves were breaking 40 feet and more
Pitching hard in the violent sea
Green water on deck – no place to flee

<u>CHORUS</u>
       F   **C**
     WOOH – WOOH - WOOH the pumps are failing
     F   **EMaj**
     WOOH – WOOH - WOOH The bow's not rising
           Am
     A winter gale, a ship too old
     C   **Dm**   **Am**
        Thirty-one men were lost to coal.

❷ Pitch and roll, she fought the tide
With the heavy burden of the coal inside
By Jack Spot Shoal no land in sight
The Marine Electric lost her fight

Oh, hear my call, *The Marine Electric*
Lord, S.O.S - come to us quick
The Captain cries in a voice of dread
 We're listing bad, down by the head

<u>CHORUS</u>

❸ "Abandon Ship!" The Captain cried
Then the vessel rolled on her starboard side
Boats are steel, men are frail
Only three lived to tell the tale.

Twenty-three miles from the Assateague Light
Below the waves, well out of sight
No thoughtful stone, no lovely flower
Just mounds of coal on the sea bed floor.

FINAL CHORUS

    WOOH – WOOH – WOOH who was to blame?
    WOOH – WOOH – WOOH what were their names?
    A winter gale, a ship too old
    Thirty-one men were lost to coal.
    Thirty-one men were lost to coal. Thirty-one men . . . lost to coal