

THE TUG "THUBAN"

(1)

Come all you hardy sailors
And listen while you can
As I sing about a tugman's life
Aboard the old "Thuban"
She tows from Vineyard Haven
Her barges round the coast
Of all the tugs I've seen and known
I love "Thuban" the most!

(2)

To labor as a deckhand
Believe me, it's no sport
The working hours are much too long
And the time to sleep too short
You're on deck or in the wheelhouse
In rain and sun and snow
Then try to sleep when your watch is done
While the engine throbs below!

(Chorus, after vv 2,4 and 6)

*Well you're not an ocean racer
Or a ruler of the deep
You're just a little tugboat
Who's got to earn her keep
You taught me 'bout the tugging life
You taught me ... about me:
My blessings on you, bold Thuban
Fair sky and peaceful sea!*

(3)

You'll get to know New Bedford
Where she brings her barge to load
And the crooked Woods Hole Passage
Where the buoys mark out the road
Nantucket, Boston, Newport
She might call in there as well
If the yacht club types don't like her looks
They can all just go to ...

THE TUG "THUBAN"

(4)

**You'll get to know the weather
And it isn't always nice
The summer sun will scorch the deck
And with winter comes the ice
The southwest breeze that cools the Cape
Will make you pitch and roll
While the northeast gales of wintertime
Will freeze your very soul**

(5)

**But you'll have those beautiful evenings
When the Sound is like a lake
When there's not a wave on Buzzards Bay
It's like frosting on a cake
The golden sky is glorious
Till the daylight's finally gone
And the little tug goes about her work
As a million stars look on**

(6)

**So here's to you, bold Thuban
As you sail the sounds and bays
Not glamorous or romantic
Or designed to win men's praise
Just a rusty little tugboat
Hauling barges here and there
Godspeed to you and your gallant crew
May your winds be always fair!**