

# The Light of Assateague

Lyrics & Music by Bill Troxler

Written for the November 26, 2010 Benefit Concert Given by *Three Sheets*  
to Raise Funds for the Restoration of Assateague Light

## Verse 1

Outward bound from Veracruz. Headed home to Spain.  
Heavy Fog. Heavy rain. Juno in a hurricane  
But her seams they would not hold. And her rigging washed away.  
The galleon and four hundred lives, were lost beneath the ocean's stormy spray

A mother hugs her child. Her tears flood the sea.  
She dogs him to a hatch. Sets him loose and makes a plea.  
"Please, God, spare my boy. Don't take him, he's not grown."  
And the boy washed up alive, and the people called him James Alone.

## Chorus

I keep you safe from the breakers' threat.  
I stand alone and pay the ocean's debt.  
I hold myself to the highest creed.  
I am the light of Assateague.

## Verse 2

The first day of October, 1867  
My lamp first spilled its light, the darkness to offend  
Now 20 miles at sea, my light is full aglow  
No tide, no wind, no fog, no sea; no hurricane can hide the shoals below.

There was a time, August '33  
A massive storm, turned my forests to debris  
And the village at my feet, was flooded by the sea  
And the people built new lives, on the island, Chincoteague

## Verse 3

I know your names. You I could not save.  
My beams fall so sadly, upon your ghostly graves.  
LaGalga and Despatch. Monroe and Bow Marine  
Torpedos, storms and fire. Now you lie in sand serene

Now I'm standing tall, on this bluff by the sea  
My bricks and iron bones, keep the sea birds company  
And I've mastered every villain. All the hurricanes and gales  
My light keeps on flashing: "AYE!" without fail.

## Verse 4

The men who fired my lamp, lie still in their graves  
They could never know, how many lives I'd save  
And when you reach your harbor, and your children's' course is through.  
I'll still be the light, saving ships, saving crews.