

# BECALMED

*Have you ever been becalmed on the vast Pacific ocean,  
without a breath of breeze or rippled sea?  
Have you ever seen the glassy swells roll beneath your boat?  
Then you've shared this experience with me.*

*Have you ever seen the twinkling stars reflected in the sea,  
the sky so bright the milky way shows clear?  
Your masthead light sweeps arcs and circles in the sky.  
Then you've shared this experience with me.*

*Sometimes you wonder if the wind has died for good.  
Has your boat been left to roll it's life away?  
Have you ever checked your supplies of water and of food?  
Perhaps you'll share this experience one day.*

*Have you ever tried to move a bit by hoisting up a sail  
and seen it bang and crash from side to side?  
At times like this you might be pleased to experience a gale,  
or even just some movement from the tide.*

*Have you ever watched the sun go down mirrored on the sea,  
and green flash light the heavens in the west?  
Perhaps you will remember this sight you've seen for free  
for you've seen the great Pacific at its best.*

*Sometimes in life's great rush we are forced to take a pause.  
Be patient - a breeze will come ,you'll see.  
Relax, tidy up or do some of those chores.  
Enjoy this experience with me.*

*For when the wind returns and blows you on your way,  
you'll soon forget this time of peace and calm.  
I bet you won't remember this, one year from today  
when the entry in your logbook said 'becalmed'.*

*Barry Young on his 9 meter yacht ORCA, becalmed 600 miles north of New Zealand  
for three days in October, 1995.*