

# Silver and Sand

When you stand here on a summer's day the sea is calm and  
 bright, but it's a different matter in the winter and at  
 night. When the gale howls up the channel, grip- ping ship- ping in its  
 hand, and may- be cast- ing sil- ver on the sand; sil- ver on the  
 sand; and may- be cast- ing sil- ver on the sand.

When you stand here on a summer's day  
 The sea is calm and bright  
 But it's a different matter  
 In the winter and at night  
 When the gale howls up the channel  
 Gripping shipping in its hand  
 And maybe casting silver on the sand.  
*Silver on the sand*  
*And maybe casting silver on the sand.*

They say she was a Spanish ship  
 Driven northwards by the gales  
 But no-one saw her come to grief  
 On the wild coast of Wales  
 When folk came out next morning  
 They were not surprised to find  
 Wreckage that the storm had left behind  
*Storm had left behind,*  
*Wreckage that the storm had left behind*

But where the ship had foundered  
 Whether one mile out or ten  
 I couldn't say for certain now,  
 And no-one could guess then  
 'Til rumours started of a man  
 Who'd left his native land  
 Some say he carried silver from the sand  
*Silver from the sand*  
*Some say he carried silver from the sand*

Then darker rumours started  
 Of false lights on the head  
 And shipwrecked sailors murdered  
 As shore folk lay in bed  
 And fights between the wreckers  
 As the sea roared in to land  
 And an oath to leave no silver in the sand  
*Silver in the sand*  
*An oath to leave no silver in the sand*

When you stand here on a winter's night  
 When the sea is at low tide  
 And bitter gales have lashed the coast  
 And cast the sands aside  
 Some say you'll see a coach and pair  
 Come racing out to stand  
 Still searching for the silver in the sand  
*Silver in the sand*  
*Still searching for the silver in the sand*



The most famous of the Gower wrecks is that of the "Dollar Ship". This is said to have been a Spanish vessel carrying part of the dowry of Catherine of Braganza, who married King Charles II in 1662. Coins of Peruvian silver were uncovered in 1807 and again in 1833. One of the Lucas family was reported to have got away unfairly with the bulk of the silver and then fled the country, or possibly been murdered by his accomplices. His ghostly coach is supposed to traverse the sands on wild nights.