

THE OCEAN CREW BELOW THE DELAWARE II

By: Lisha Hylton

Vic Nordhl
Was a black quahog.
He lived in the Atlantic Ocean.
Along with his friends
And all of their kin,
In a sea clam population.

This sea population
Had other relations
To make up their ecosystem;
Where living and non-living
Things interacted ~
Maintaining a natural rhythm.

Now Vic was in charge
Of the marine habitat.
He oversaw all that went on.
But a surfclam one day
Monty ~ was his name...
Claimed he was in charge of the clan!

July 12th was the day,
Year ~ two thousand and eight...
Fescus hit the Sea fan!
Monty and Vic
Decided real quick...
They'd Battleship – For King of the clan!

The clan congregated
As they all celebrated
A new Marine holiday.
Today they'd conclude
Who'd be the new dude
That would run the whole operation.

The community massed
To bet on the champ.
They all got to the location.
Some swam in, some crawled in
Some dove in, some rode in
All made it in time to the station.

The ladycrab, Erin
Developed a plan,
For seating the clan at the show.
She'd have Jakeb, the Sandlance
And Kira, the Leatherback
Seat the guests in a row.

Francine, the Stargazer,
Her temper, "a blazer"
Controlled herself for the show.
Lino, the scallop
And Walter, the sea squirt
Sat by her in the first row.

The hermit crab, Christi
And Sharon the shark eye
Wiggled their way to their place.
Lisha, the dolphin,
Dove deep to the bottom
While Claire, the whelk found her place.

**Then Jimbo, the Moonsnail
Came ~ leaving his trail,
Along with Chuck, the Sand Dollar.
The Horseshoe Crab, Mark
Came right before dark,
Then everyone started to hollar!**

**The clan screamed and applauded,
Yelled, “JONNY ~ THE ROCK!!!”
When Jonny the ***“Lob Stah”** strolled out.
Dressed for the ball,
Chile peppers and all –
Hotter than a pepper sprout!**

**When the clan settled down
And their seats had been found.
Officer Mark, the shark ~ BLEW HIS HORN.
Then the king of the quahogs
And the King of the Surfclams
Met in the front for the war.**

**The electric eel, Patrick
Wired up the game.
Battleship now would begin.
With Vic on the port side,
and Monty on ***“stah bud”**
Everyone wondered, “Who’d win?”**

**The chief engineer,
Murphy, the squid ~
Along with the rest of his crew...
Grady, the ***“MUSCLE”**
And Chris the Yellowtail
Mechanically knew what to do.**

Monty sank Vic's ship,
Then Vic crashed Monty's.
The game remained tied to the finish.
So when the war ceased
They made a decree ~
The fight for the king would diminish!

Then Monty told Vic
The surfclams' opinion
"The clay where they lived was too sticky".
They preferred course sand
And so all of his clan
Would move off-shore very quickly."

So Vic shook his hand,
Said, "Marty, my man ~
Take your clan to the sand in good time.
The quahogs will stay
In this sticky, grey clay ~
This habitat suits us fine."

So Erin and Jakeb
Kira, Lisha and Mark
And Jonny the rock *
"Lob Stah"
With Francine and Jimbo
And Lino and Ritchie
Claimed Vic as their "Man in Charge"!

But Christi and Claire
And Patrick and Chuck
Along with Shark, Officer Mark,
Plus Sharon the shark eye
All shouted with glee,
We're going with King Monty!

**The story ends
With a happy trend ~
When the Master of the Whole Sea~
When Captain Wagner
The Spotted Flounder
Proclaimed “This is How it Shall Be”!!!**

**”Lob Stah” – lobster
* “Stah bud” – starboard
* “Muscle” – mussel**