



Poetry 180

a poem a day for american high schools

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018 *Today's poem is about trust and distrust.*

The Farewell

Edward Field

**They say the ice will hold
so there I go,
forced to believe them by my act of trusting people,
stepping out on it,**

**and naturally it gaps open
and I, forced to carry on coolly
by my act of being imperturbable,
slide erectly into the water wearing my captain's helmet,
waving to the shore with a sad smile,
"Goodbye my darlings, goodbye dear one,"
as the ice meets again over my head with a click.**

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