

Song for the Mavi Marmara

David Rovics

In for-ty-eight they were dri-ven out At the point of a mach-ine gun

Fam-'lies fled in fear to Jor-dan Sy-ri-a and Le-ba-non They fled a-round the globe firm-ly

held in ter-ror's grip And a-bout a mil-li-on re-fu-gees End-ed up in the Ga-za Strip In

nine-teen-six-ty-se-ven the I D F moved in And the re-fu-gees in Ga-za be-came

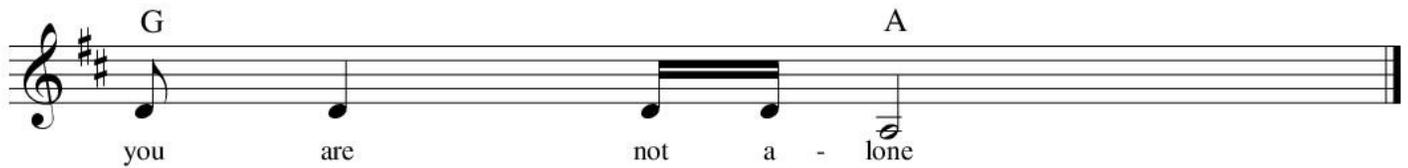
re-fu-gees a-gain Set-tl-ers took their farm-land sol-diers took the ports And the

peo-ple were sur-round-ed by mi-li-ta-ry forts In two-thou-sand -

All a-board the Ma-vi Mar-mar-a Sail-ing toward Go-li-ath's king-dom armed with

no-thing but a stone All a-board the Ma-vi Mar-mar-a Tell the chil-dren of Je-ru-sa-lem

Song for the Mavi Marmara



In 2007 they cut it off completely
 No access to the borders, no access to the sea
 The world began to see this unavoidable stamp
 The most crowded place on Earth was now a concentration
 camp
 Israeli jet fighters bombed Gaza from the air
 And they kept out the supplies needed to rebuild and repair
 They kept out the convoys of humanitarian aid
 Anemic children going hungry, crushed and burned in
 bombing raids

From around the world good people tried
 To get across the border to the other side
 Almost all of them were turned away
 Deported back to Turkey, Jordan, France, the USA
 They were barred from ever coming back
 Adam and Huwaida decided on a different tack
 They loaded up a boat and managed to get through
 That's when activists in Istanbul decided what they had to
 do

Armed with food and wheelchairs
 And prosthetic limbs for victims of the bombing raids to
 wear
 They packed cement by the ton
 They had a few kitchen knives but not a single gun
 They were determined to reach the bay
 To break the siege of Gaza and not be turned away
 As they left Turkish waters everybody wished them well
 As for what would happen, only the Apartheid state could
 tell

Chorus

Seven hundred people on board this Turkish ferry
 They were sixty miles from the shore out in the open sea
 In international waters with no plans for turning back
 That's when Netanyahu told his soldiers to attack
 They came down from helicopters, fired guns from Zodiacs
 They shot some people in their heads and shot others in
 their backs
 The captain raised a white flag high into the air
 The soldiers kept on shooting beneath the floodlight's glare

The soldiers kept on shooting, it was a free fire zone
 So many dead and wounded, just how many isn't known
 So many dead and wounded, blood flowing on the floor
 The soldiers kept on shooting sixty miles from the shore
 Medics tried to treat the wounded, all they could do was
 watch them bleed
 The soldiers wouldn't let them get the urgent help they need
 Masked troopers held their hostages, the Navy towed the
 ship
 Just for trying to sail to the Gaza Strip

Chorus

They took every laptop, every camera and cell phone
 This is what Goliath does to those who dare to throw a
 stone
 The ghost of the Exodus is shouting at the sky
 But Netanyahu isn't listening, he's just watching people die
 For days nobody knew just what happened on that boat
 Because everyone was held in jail and dead men do not
 float
 All the world will remember what happened on that night
 And to end the siege of Gaza more will go and join the
 fight

Chorus