



All Swans Are White

(The Voyage of Willem de Vlamingh)

CHORUS

All swans are white
I used to believe they were right
But it just goes to show, you never really know
'Cos I've just seen one black as the night
All swans are white

VERSE 1

Sixteen-ninety-six we set sail
New Holland our goal
In search of lost souls
Eight months at sea we arrive
To an island of rats as big as cats*

With skin so pale like spirits you came to our land

VERSE 2

Onto the mainland we sail
A river we see
What more could there be?
Lower the boats and we'll row
Follow its course right to the source

BRIDGE

Do my eyes deceive me
Am I going mad?
This mythical creature, impossible bird
Floating by, so serene, floating by

repeat CHORUS

VERSE 3

All swans are white we would say
To prove something true
No point to argue
Now it appears all this time
We believed in a lie
There's more than meets the eye

We watched you come and we watched you sail away

VERSE 4

Nobody there did we see
I named the river Swan
And then we were gone
Now ev'ry night in my dreams
Together in flight, the black and the white

repeat BRIDGE

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Black as the night

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*the quokka – a marsupial