

They Already Know

By Simon Zec

A Poem written for the 20 September Steyning Climate Strike

A 16 year old took a boat half way round the world
To tell them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

The papers are full of stories of imminent destruction
But you know what?
THEY ALREADY KNOW

Children across the globe
Went on strike on Fridays
Inspiring the rest of us
Telling them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

We recycle papers and cans and plastic
And bags and crisps
Doing all we can to change our world
But they need to do more than us
But that's something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

And the next generation
Making placards
And shouting from the roof tops
Telling them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

We've been banging our heads against the wall
Wearing badges
Singing songs
Signing petitions
To tell them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

And those in control
Get us to do all these things
Whilst they're
Fracking
And oil refining
And bombing
And not funding solar panels
And setting pathetic targets that won't touch the sides
So we strike
To tell them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

But we'll keep doing this
And keep doing this
And keep doing this

Because it's our world
And it's their world
and all of us together
Are United in single mindedness

Retirees
The Middle aged
Generation Xers
Millennials
University students
School children
Toddlers
Babies
We're telling them something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

So we'll keep doing this
And keep shouting about it
And keep protesting
Because one day they'll listen
And one day it'll change
And one day this will be over

And you can't fight us
And you can't stop us
And you can't defeat us
But of course that's something
THEY ALREADY KNOW

Simon Zec 2019