

We Work the Black Seam...

This place has changed for good
Your economic theory said it would
It's hard for us to understand
We can't give up our jobs the way we should
Our blood has stained the coal
We tunneled deep inside the nation's soul
We matter more than pounds and pence
Your economic theory makes no sense

One day in a nuclear age
They may understand our rage
They build machines that they can't control
And bury the waste in a great big hole
Power was to become cheap and clean
Grimy faces were never seen
Deadly for twelve thousand years is carbon fourteen
We work the black seam together
We work the black seam together

The seam lies underground
Three million years of pressure packed it down
We walk through ancient forest lands
And light a thousand cities with our hands
Your dark satanic mills
Have made redundant all our mining skills
You can't exchange a six inch band
For all the poisoned streams in Cumberland
Your economic theory makes no sense..

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Should the children weep
The turning world will sing their souls to sleep
When you have sunk without a trace
The universe will suck me into place

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They build machines that they can't control
And bury the waste in a great big hole
Power was to become cheap and clean
Grimy faces were never seen
But deadly for twelve thousand years is carbon fourteen

SONG NOTES

We Work The Black Seam appears on Sting's debut solo album, 1985's *The Dream Of The Blue Turtles* and uses another very old (circa Last Exit) melody of Sting's. The song appeared on the subsequent world tour, and in 1993 a "1993 Remix" appeared as a bonus track on the US single release of *If I Ever Lose My Faith In You*.