

Souls at Sea

Only at sea do we have loss of "souls."
Disasters elsewhere calculate their tolls

In bodies merely; and no doubt on ship
More souls are in first class than make the trip

In steerage, although class on board a plane
Seems neither to prevent nor to obtain

That right to the immortal. Soul instills
Itself at pregnancy? At lifeboat drills?

No souls were lost on 9/11, few
Stockbrokers having any, and to view

A civil servant at the Pentagon
As soul is gracing an automaton.

The souls that day were airline passengers
Who took hijackers on, and with a terse

"Let's roll."

(Apocryphal the quote may be;
So too the souls' *Nearer My God To Thee.*)