

The Compass Rose

In the beginning there was
The bear and the salmon,
The spruce and the tundra.

They came from the
NORTH
the first people. In their fragile skin boats.
Were they seeking freedom or fleeing famine?

They came from the **WEST**
from the **EAST**
Scandinavian sea-captains
seeking the wealth hidden in
her waters.

black-bearded Cossacks
when sea otter pelts were
worth their weight in gold.

They came

They come from the
SOUTH
The new people, seeking jobs or a way of living
That is nearly vanished.

But however the compass turns,

In the end it will be
The bear and the salmon,
The spruce and the tundra.