

## Black Thursday

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verse to the tune of *Wildwood Flower* (trad.)

Have you heard of Black Thursday; that terrible day  
When the Telecom Bill stole our freedom away  
The right to free speech in the land of the brave  
Was sent by that bill to an untimely grave.

Tell me, what did you do when Black Thursday came?  
Did you turn your page black; did you send in your name?  
Did you turn out for freedom, or just turn your back  
Tell me, what did you do when the Net went black?

It was all through the morning that cold winters' day  
That we waited for the President to sign our rights away.  
Then the word it came down of his dastardly act;  
And all through the Web peoples' pages turned black.  
Now we wear our blue ribbons for freedom of speech,  
And we're spreading the word to the Net's farthest reach.  
Now we work toward the day when our leaders take not  
That the Net folk love freedom and know how to vote!

When the Nazis torpedoed the Ruben James, Woody Guthrie dusted off the tune for *Wildwood Flower*, wrote new lyrics, and added a rabble-rousing chorus. I figure the First Amendment deserves nothing less.

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