

My Sister's Tiny Hands

[Andrew Bird](#)

We came in this world together
Legs wrapped around each other
My cheek against my sister's
We were born like tangled vines And we lived along the river
Where the black clouds never linger
And the sunlight spread like honey
Through my sister's tiny hands But while picking sour apples
In the wild waving grasses
Sister stumbled in the brier
And was bitten by a snake Every creature casts a shadow
Under the sun's golden fingers
And as the sun sinks past the waving grass
Some shadows are dragged along So alone I took to drinking
Bottles of cheap whiskey
And I staggered through the backwoods
Killing snakes with a sharpened stick Oh but still I heard her laughing
In the wild waving grasses
Still her tiny hands went splashing
At the river's sparkling shore So I took my rusty gas can
And an old iron shovel
And I set the woods to blaze
And choked the river up with stones Every creature casts a shadow
Under the sun's golden fingers
And as the sun sinks past the waving grass
Some shadows are dragged along

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