## **Christmas Woman**

## **Sufjan Stevens**

Christmas is the time of year
When the patrons and the panthers
Come and commandeer
Christian, put away your fuss
With the tipping of the handlers
As the pagans mustI know for a century
We were scrambling to assemble

What a man believes

I know for a time I let

To believe that human kindness

Would prevail insteadWoman, have you lost your kind?

There are snakeskin stealers

Seething in the afterlife

Christian in the advent house

You confess the incarnation

With the breast turned outHave you seen the Christ the king

Suckling nurseries in snakeskin

In the armored seat?

Christian, put away your woes

Welcome grief and crime and anguish

With the happiest hostOh, I was thinking by myself

I was remembering

Every moment by the river

When it froze last nightAnd in the fullness of the moon

I felt the baby kick beside me

She was grabbing happy, healthy lifeI lived it out to be a soldier

I was channeling Middle Ages

I was captured by the Norsemen riteThe sign that passeth comprehending

She was tending right beside me

She was captured in the midst of menAnd then it kissed me on my shoulder

All the possibilities of motion

Resting rightly, right inside of me

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