

## Two Sisters

Steeleye Span

There were two sisters served in a bower  
There came a knight to be there lover  
He wooed the eldest with glove, and ring  
But he loved the youngest above all things  
He wooed the eldest with brooch, and knife  
But he loved the youngest with all his life

The eldest she was vexed, and sore  
And could not envy her sister more  
The eldest to the youngest did say  
Our father's ship comes home today

She's taken her by the lily hand  
Lead her down to the river strand  
The youngest to the cliffside went  
The eldest came and pushed her in  
Took her by the little small  
Pushed her back into the water cold

Sister, sister reach out your hand  
And you shall be the heir to half my lands  
Oh sister I'll not reach my hand  
And I'll be heir of all your lands  
Sister, sister reach out your glove  
And Sweet William shall be your love  
Think not on hope, or hand, or glove  
And Sweet William shall be my love  
You're cheery cheeks, and your yellow hair  
Have made me a maid forever more

Sometimes she sank, sometimes she swam  
Until she came to the Miller's dam  
The miller's son he did come out  
Saw the lady float about  
'Father, father draw your dam  
I've spied a milk white swan.'

The miller hastened, and drew his dam  
And there he found a drowned woman

He could not see her yellow hair  
For gold and pearls that were so rare  
He could not see her little slight  
Her golden girdle was so bright

The King's bard were passing by  
A sweet veiled face he chanced to spy  
And when he heard that lady moan  
He sighed and made a weary groan  
He made a harp of her breast bone  
Whose sounds would melt a heart of stone  
And with her fingers slight, and small  
Some tuning picks he made with all  
The strings he wound with her yellow hair  
Whose notes made sad the listing air

He brought her to her father's hall

There was the court assembled all  
He laid the haps upon the stone  
It began to play alone

Oh yonder sits my father the king  
And yonder sits my mother the queen  
And yonder stands my brother Hugh  
And there's my love sweet and true  
You may ask why I lay dead  
There sits my sister false, ?  
Goddamn her bones, goddamn her head  
For it is she who brought my death  
Goddamn her bones for it is she  
Who pushed me in, and drowned me

Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me  
Play me sister, come play me