

Baby Birch

Joanna Newsom

This is the song for baby birch
Oh I will never know you
And at the back of what we've done
There is the knowledge of you
Well I wish we could take every path
Could spend a hundred years adoring you
Yes I wish we could take every path
Cos you know I hated to close the door on you
Do you remember staring up at the stars
So far away in their bulletproof cars
When we heard the rushing slow intake
Of the dark dark water
And the engine breaks
And I said
How about them engine breaks
And if I should die before I wake
Will you keep an eye on baby birch
Because I'd hate to see her make the same mistakes
When it was dark
I called
And you came
When it was dark
I saw shapes
When I see stars
I feel your hand
And I see stars
And I reel again
Well mercy me
I'll be goddamned
It's been a long long time
Since I last saw you
And I have never known the plan
It's been a long long time
How are you?
Your eyes are green
Your hair is gold
Your hair is black
Your eyes are blue
I closed the ranks
And I doubled back
But you know I hated to close the doggone door on you
We take a walk along the dirty lake
Hear the goose cussing
At me over her eggs

You poor little cousin
I don't want your dregs
A little baby fussing over my legs
There is a blacksmith
And there is a shepard
And there is a butcher boy
And there is a barber cutting away at my only joy
I saw a rabbit as slick as a knife
And as pale as a candlestick
And I had thought it would be harder to do
But I caught her and skinned her quick
Held her there kicking and mewling
Upended unspooling unsung and blue
Told her "wherever you go
Little runaway bunny I will find you"
And then she ran
As they're liable to do
Be at peace baby birch
And be gone
Be at peace baby birch
And be gone

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