

KRISTIN ANDREASSEN GONDOLIER



**Kristin Andreassen** / lead vocal, guitar,  
piano, organ, harmonica, body percussion  
**Tom Ayres** / guitar, bass  
**Stephanie Coleman** / fiddle  
**Erik Deutsch** / piano, Hammond organ  
**Rushad Eggleston** / cello  
**Chris Eldridge** / guitar  
**Nico Georis** / accordion  
**Jefferson Hamer** / harmony vocals  
**Lyndon Hardy** / harmony vocals  
**Cassandra Jenkins** / harmony vocals  
**Paul Kowert** / bass  
**Frank LoCraсто** / piano, organ  
**Tony Maimone** / banjo bass  
**Robin MacMillan** / drums  
**Ruth Merenda** / harmony vocals  
**Aoife O'Donovan** / harmony vocals  
**Mike Riddleberger** / drums  
**Ryan Scott** / guitar  
**Jacob Silver** / bass  
**Alec Spiegelman** / bass clarinet,  
clarinet, flute  
**Lawson White** / drums, percussion

Chris Eldridge & Paul Kowert appear courtesy of  
Nonesuch. Aoife O'Donovan appears courtesy of Yep  
Roc Records.

## 1. THE BOAT SONG (GONDOLIER)

When I was a girl, I wished I was a boy  
I had a dog, I wished it was a horse  
We lived by the freeway, I thought it was the ocean,  
Sounded like a seashell in my sleep in the night  
I would go riding and I would go sailing  
All the while bouncing a ball at the wall

And I was a gondolier, pushing through Venice  
I was a tour guide of my own heart's desires  
Over there I'm a painter, over there I'm a builder,  
Over there I'm a cab driver who knows every street  
But I can't find the bridge, or is it a ferry  
Some way to cross over, some way to connect  
No man is an island, but most of us choose one  
There are islands for bakers and bankers  
and thieves.

*And you row & row & row your boat on down  
the baby river  
Row it oh so gently, as though life were but  
a dream*

For some reason my dreams are all about water  
It replaces the concrete, I can breathe it like air  
Perhaps in a past life, I was a great swimmer  
Or maybe in this life, I'm destined to drown  
I'm destined to choose. So it's been foretold  
Sure enough, as I've chosen, my destiny  
is unfolding

*Row & row & row your boat on down  
the baby river  
Row it oh so gently, as though life were  
but a dream  
But oh, I know, that dreaming is not living  
So many lives there are to land upon,  
The dreams just flow between*

When I am an old man, I'll wish I was a girl  
I'll wish I had parents. I'm sure that it's true  
I will want a tour then of my own  
heart's desires  
So many, so varied, all softened with time  
No man is an island, but most of us choose one  
There are islands for hustlers and mothers  
and kings  
But the fearless explorers, they find  
secret passageways  
Through melting obstacles. They move up  
and downstream  
Saying look out for the rocks. Lean into  
the wind.  
Look into your heart. Look out for your friends.  
Hold fast to the oars. Maybe wait for the  
full moon.  
Look up at the sky. Look down at your hands.

*And row & row & row your boat on down  
the baby river  
Row it oh so gently as though life were but  
a dream  
But you and I know that dreaming is not living  
So many dreams each night to lie upon,  
And one life between the dreams*

Kristin: organ, Wurlitzer & background vocals /  
Aoife: background vocals / Alec: clarinet, bass clarinet  
& flute / Robin: drums & percussion / Tom: bass

## 2. THE FISH & THE SEA

If I was a fish in the sea  
How could I see the sea  
How could I see the sea  
If I was a fish in the sea

If I was the wind in the leaves  
How would I feel the breeze  
How would I feel the breeze  
If I was the wind in the leaves

If I was a note in a song  
I could feel short or long  
Short or long  
And what I feel could be wrong

*You were never lost so you couldn't be found  
We were never stopped so we couldn't be wound  
Just a kernel of corn in a big corn maze  
Doesn't see no puzzle, doesn't need to know the way  
I was never nothing if not your friend  
At the start and the middle of a world without end*

If I was a fish in a tree  
I would feel the breeze  
Dry as autumn leaves  
If I was a fish in a tree

*When we get caught up in the air  
That's when we see the water down there  
Now I know, I know I need it on my skin  
I know I need it on my skin oh would you throw me  
Would you throw me back in  
Throw me back in  
Throw me back in  
Throw me back in*

Kristin: electric guitar / Cassandra: harmony vocals /  
Robin: drums / Chris: electric & acoustic guitar /  
Jacob: bass / Alec: clarinet, bass clarinet & flute

## 3. 'SIMMON

You get a line, honey, and I'll get a pole  
Together we'll go down to that old crawdad hole  
Where we set down our blanket on the green  
grassy ground  
Catching catfish by the dozen and crawdads  
by the pound

*I've got a memory, so strong  
Of Indian summer and a corny old song, babe*

August was hot, and the lake has gone dry  
We'll just stand on the banks and watch the old  
crawdads die  
Raccoon chased the possum, oh look what they  
found  
A black tree with bright fruit and the branches  
bowed down

*I've got a camera, so new  
It makes color pictures like only paints used to  
do, babe*

You climb on up, honey, and I'll stay right here  
I'll catch what you throw me, I can see it so clear

*The fruit was exactly the color of the sun  
As seen through closed eyes when the  
afternoon's humming, babe*

You ride the grey mare, and I'll ride the roan  
You ride the G Train, and I'll just walk home

*I've got a camera, so old  
It takes old timey pictures where silver stands  
in for gold  
You ate a fruit, it was perfectly round  
And the color of the sun when it's close to the  
ground  
Don't you remember it, when we were kids  
The color of sunshine as seen through closed  
eyelids, babe*

Kristin: guitar / Jefferson: harmony vocal / Stephanie: fiddle /

## 4. LOOKOUT

One if by land, two if by sea  
Three if by time, and that I would believe  
The future's camped out there like a sleeping army

Three if by time, four if by air  
I'll climb up in the steeple with a feather in my hair  
And light the lamps that tell you what I see out there

*I was always looking out for you  
Would you let me be your lookout  
I was always looking out for you  
Will you be my lookout now?*

A bird in the wind flies steady like a weathervane  
A bird in a storm is a marionette on strings of rain  
So you got pulled around by the hurricane

And with every revolution, it's crawling up the coast  
I got a flashlight and a flask, but I need a friend the most  
You been up and down, tell me what you know

Chorus

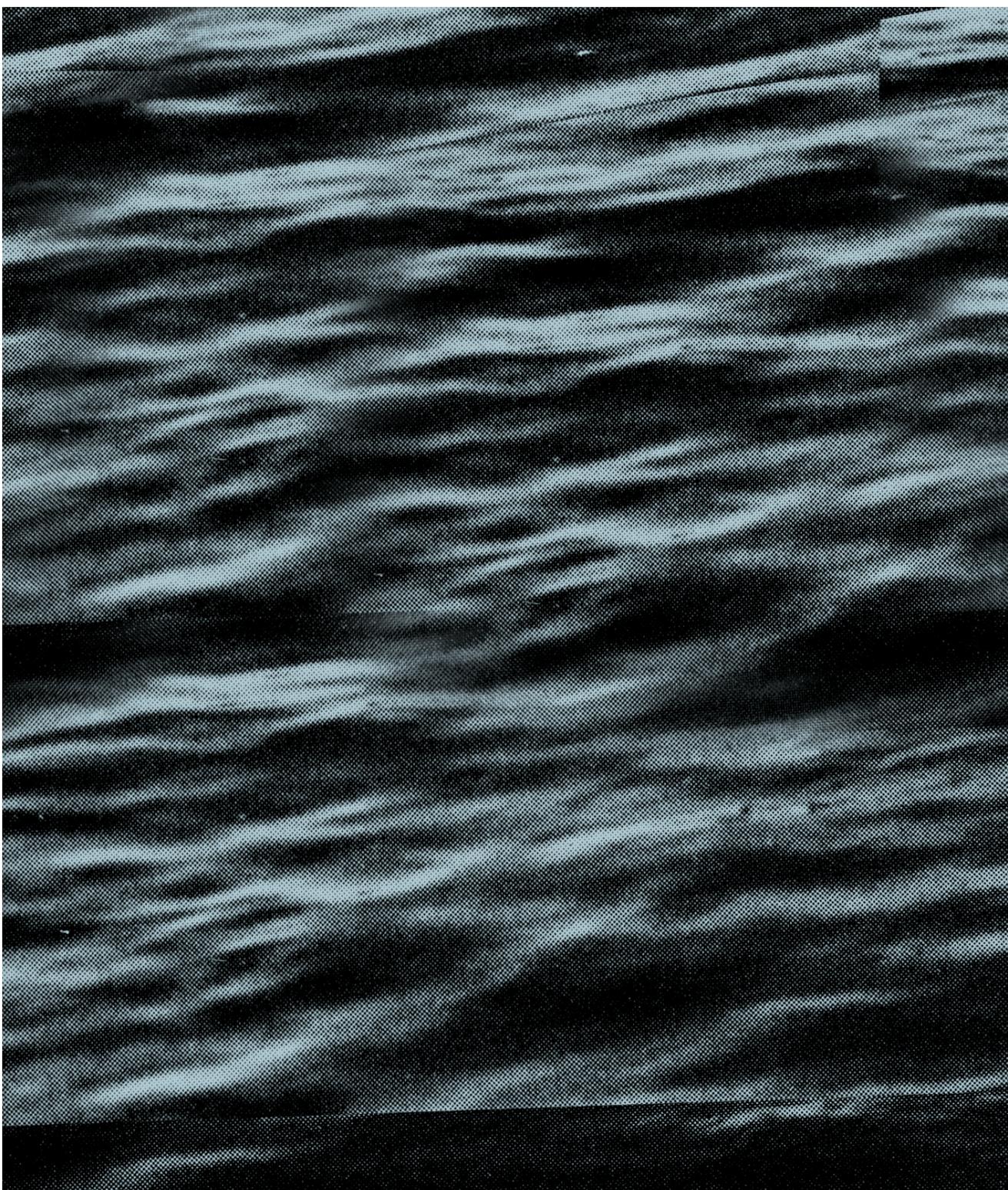
Looking out for the right time  
Holding on for the good time

One if by land, two if by sea  
Three if by time, and that you should believe  
The future's marching on a sleeping army

Chorus

Looking out for the right time  
Holding on for the good time  
Waiting up for the right time  
Looking out for the good time

Kristin: harmonica / Jefferson: harmony vocals /  
Robin: drums, percussion & bass / Ryan: electric guitar /  
Chris: acoustic & electric guitar



## 5. SOME DO

Not every oyster hides a pearl  
Some questions don't want an answer  
If you're counting all the raindrops, some never  
    find the thirsty grass  
But some do  
How bout me and you?

Not many horses run the Derby  
Some clocks just don't keep good time  
If you're counting every snowflake, not many  
    find an outstretched hand  
But some do  
How bout me and you?

*How many hearts go untested?  
How many loves go untasted?  
How many listened when they said  
Only a love saved is wasted?*

Not every river finds the ocean  
Not all the oceans grow with time  
If you're counting every kindness, some never  
    find a grateful heart  
But some do  
How bout me and you?

*I have got a heart that's untested.  
I've got a little bit of love left untasted.  
The wiser ones, I once heard they said  
Only a love saved is wasted.  
Only a love unspent is wasted.*

Not every song becomes a favorite  
Not all good books get read again  
If you're counting every raindrop,  
    some never find the thirsty grass  
But some do  
How bout me and you?

Kristin: tenor guitar & harmonica / Chris: guitar /  
Lawson: tambourine

## 6. 'SIMMON

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Together we'll go down to that old crawdad hole  
Where we set down our blanket on the green  
grassy ground  
Catching catfish by the dozen and crawdads  
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*I've got a camera, so old  
It takes old timey pictures where silver stands  
in for gold*

*You ate a fruit, it was perfectly round  
And the color of the sun when it's close to the ground  
Don't you remember it, when we were kids  
The color of sunshine as seen through closed  
eyelids, babe*

Kristin: guitar / Jefferson: harmony vocal / Stephanie: fiddle / Chris:  
guitar / Paul: bass / Mike: drums / Lawson: triangle /  
Erik: piano & Hammond organ / Alec: clarinet

## 7. HOW THE WATER WALKS

I hear, I hear, footsteps on the rocks  
Oh not, that's just the water, that's how it walks  
Down in the bunker, with the night watch on  
the shore  
We try to sleep until we don't try anymore

Dawn has barely broken when they call us  
up above  
I'm thinking only of my life, sorry my love  
Our guns are big as boats and their boats are  
small as birds  
We are the hunter and the prey awaiting  
the word

As the cannons find the silence, you know I fear  
the worst  
That someone will live to tell how I fired first  
I feel, I feel the wind is pushing me around  
But the wind is just the air when it's  
falling down  
Oh the wind is just the air falling down

Kristin: body percussion & piano / Rushad: cello /  
Alec: bass clarinet, clarinet & flute

## 8. SUNNY ABOVE THE CLOUDS

Go on, would you tell me just a little bit more  
about that place  
Go on, you'd rather be there even now, I can see  
it in your face  
Go on, you took your hand from mine, you think  
I'd hold you here  
But don't think I don't remember what you  
whispered in my ear

It was sunny above the clouds  
Sunny till the plane came down  
If I don't keep on moving I fall like rain on  
the ground  
Sunny above the clouds,  
Sunny till the plane came down  
I fell without a warning, I didn't make a sound

Go on, you're not the only one gets jealous of the  
birds when they fly south  
Go on, you're not the only one who's tried the  
taste of metal in your mouth  
Go on, you heard me right, I'm enough like you  
to know you've mapped the entrances and the  
exits but the courage, it comes and goes

### Chorus

Go on, at home we watch the sky and you say  
there's sunshine way up there  
So go, you'd take one look and then you'd fall  
What would you hold onto but air  
You're right, with us down here there is no true  
and constant sun  
We just have time, and we have weather  
And some have faith  
Don't come undone

Kristin : guitar / Ruth: banjo & harmony vocal /  
Aoife: harmony vocal / Robin: drums /  
Chris: electric & acoustic guitar / Jacob: bass

## 9. AZALEA

It can get cold in Louisiana.  
Colder than northerners know.  
We can plug in the heat in the kitchen  
But cold air finds the holes in the floor.

It can get cold in Louisiana.  
Rice fields fields drawn in brown and grey ink.  
But right there in winter, I'll show you a flower  
A cornet cast in purplish pink.

*Azalea, I won't fail ya.*

After our party last weekend  
When the band and the dancers had gone.  
The rain and the flames and the mud and the boots  
Together had conquered the lawn.  
I thought on how everything transforms.  
Fire to smoke, smoke to air, air to breathing.  
I thought on how everything's transforming me  
But I'll change like a tree, slow and even.

*Azalea, I won't fail ya.*

Kristin: guitar / Ruth & Lyn: harmony vocals /  
Robin: drums / Tom: electric guitar & electric baritone guitar /  
Jacob: bass / Alec: clarinet, bass clarinet & flute

## 10. THE APPLE SONG

If there was an apple, it's all gone now  
Even the stem and the seeds, she don't remember how  
Once her skin was golden but she stayed till it burned  
Fell asleep in the sunshine, you would think she'd learn  
If you gave her sweet lemon pie, she'd ask for lime  
If you gave her eight days a week, she'd hold out  
for nine

*Now she says she wants to fall in love  
One more time*

If there was a garden, they've closed the gate  
Our friend she is knocking, she knows that she's late  
Empty with hunger, she whispers with thirst  
I know you don't trust her, you saw her at her worst  
When she begged for a nickel and you gave her a dime  
And she still showed up on Sunday to drink the  
free wine

*Now she says she wants to fall in love  
one more time*

If you gave her an apple, she'd plant the seed  
Kneel in the garden, get dirt on her knees  
There would be sweet trees and shade if she had  
her way  
Somehow I believe her when I hear her say

That she could be true, she could even be kind  
Could see it through, finish the line  
She could be true, she could even be kind  
Do you think you could spare her one more rhyme?

*Would you let her fall in love  
She only wants to fall in love  
Asking please to fall in love  
Begging please to fall in love  
Would you let her fall in love  
One more time?*

Kristin: guitar / Ruth, Lyn & Aoife: harmony vocals /  
Robin: drums / Tom Ayres: electric guitar & bass

Produced, Recorded  
& Mixed by

**Robin MacMillan**  
Except Tracks 3, 5 & 10  
Produced, Recorded &  
Mixed by

**Lawson White**  
Track 2 vocals  
recorded by

**Jefferson Hamer**  
Track 7 mixed by

**Adam Armstrong**  
Mastered at Engine Room  
Audio by  
**Dan Millice**

Woodwinds arranged by  
**Alec Spiegelman**  
Body percussion on  
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Most of these songs were either started or finished in a cabin on Three Mile Island in Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire. For the past few years, I've carefully guarded a week in June for a trip to this island where I write with a group of friends known as the Sub Rosa Collective. Thanks to all the musicians in that crew, and to the Passim Iguana Music Fund for supporting our work.

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