

The Incest Song

Buffy Sainte-Marie

Word is up to the king's dear daughter
And word is spreading all over the land
That's she's been betrayed by her own dear brother
That he has chosen another fair hand
Many young man had a song of her beauty
And many a grand deed for her had been done
But within her sights she carried the child
Of her father's youngest, fairest son
Tell to me no lies
Tell to me no stories
But saddle my good horse and I'll go and see my own true love
If your words be true ones, then that will mean the end of me
Brother oh brother what lies be these ones
They say your love to another I lose
There's a child within me of thy very own lineage
And I know it's I that thou would chose
And have you yet told your father or mother
All that thou has told here to me
And he's taken off his good braided sword
And I am down beside his knee
No I've not told no one but you my dear one
For it's a secret between us two
And I would come home and quit all my roaming
And spend my days only waiting on you
Too late too late for change my sister
My father has chosen another fair bride
And he stabbed her easy and lovingly lay her
Down in her grave by the green wood side
And when he's come home to his own wedding of feasting
And his father asks why he's weeping all so
He says such a bride as a I've seen on this morning
Never another man shall know