

# Thick as Thieves

Natalie Merchant

Remember how it all began  
The apple and the fall of man  
The price we paid  
So the people say  
Down a path of shame it lead us  
Dared to bite the hand that fed us  
The fairy tale  
The moral end  
The wheel of fortune  
Never turns again

The worst of it has come and gone  
In the chaos of millennium  
In the falling out of the doomsday crowd  
Their last retreat is moving slow  
They burn their bridges as they go  
The heretic is beatified  
He'll teach the harlot's child to smile

Wracked again by indecision  
Should we make that small incision  
Testify to the bleeding heart inside?  
We cut, we scratched  
We rent, we slashed  
And when he opened up at last  
Found a cul-de-sac  
Deep and black  
Of smoke and ash

The wicked king of parody  
Is kissing all his enemies  
On the seventh day  
Of the seventh week  
The tyrant's voice is softer now  
But just for one forgiving hour  
Before the rise of his  
Iron fist again

I've come tonight  
I've come to know  
The way we are  
The way we'll go  
Come to measure this  
The width of the wide abyss

I come to you in restless sleep  
Where all your dreams turn bitter-sweet  
With voodoo doll philosophies  
And day-glo holy trinities

The crooked raft that leaves the shore  
Ferries drunken souls aboard  
Pilgrims march to Compestela  
Visions of their saint in yellow

All follow deep in trance  
Lost in a catatonic dance

Know no future  
Damn the past  
Blind, warm, ecstatic  
Safe at last...