

# Mp3 Jeff Sampson + Sara Ayers - Thrice Thy Heart Shall Broken Be



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Ethereal atmospherics created entirely with voices. 3 MP3 Songs in this album (19:09) ! Related styles:

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Dead Can Dance should consider this download. Details: Jeff Sampson and Sara Ayers -- voices

===== Two of the top ambient vocalists recording today have combined their considerable talents

on Thrice Thy Heart Shall Broken Be, a three-song EP featuring Sara Ayers, who almost always records

as a solo act and Jeff Sampson, who has albums out as both a solo and with duos/groups such as

Embracing the Glass and SanRenSei. Ive been fortunate enough to review multiple previous releases by

both artists and consider myself a fan of them both so I wasnt surprised by how wonderful this

collaborative effort is, and in fact, I would have been startled if it wasnt this good. Remarkably, each of the

three tracks takes on a decidedly different musical personality, however the recording is also a cohesive

artistic statement, suffused throughout with a mystical beauty and haunting presence which is seldom

dark, but instead more shadowy and indistinct, as if one were walking through a mist which obscured the

finer details of a landscape, revealing only vague shapes and muted colors. Another emotion that has

frequently been present in both Sampsons and Ayers work is an undeniable sense of loss and regret,

occasionally bordering on pain or profound sorrow but also sometimes hovering closer to melancholy. On

this particular recording, these deep emotions are cloaked in music that is, at times, truly gorgeous. You

want to bathe in the wordless vocalizings of these two people, whether its the eerie combination of

flowing drones and soprano caresses of the title track, the almost spiritual church-choir effect of

multi-tracked singing on Not Even All The Stars (dont be surprised if the beauty of this song doesnt send

chills down your spine or even bring tears to your eyes, especially when a swelling of massed voices is

introduced later in the song) or the more abstract and minimal remix of the title track (in the liner notes called the Sleepwalking Mix). Wave after wave of overtone-like drone and sparse higher pitched vocals unwind patiently, the effect being almost siren-like in its impact. You want to follow these sounds to their source! Wrapping your head around the fact that all the music on this release was created via Ayers and Sampsons vocal chords is daunting, although since Im familiar with them, I was less amazed than newbies might be. It bears repeating that the highest recommendation I can give of an EP (and which I solidly pronounce now) is that I wished it was a full-length release, not an EP. As I stated earlier, Im not surprised at all with what Sara Ayers and Jeff Sampson have yielded on Thrice Thy Heart Shall Broken Be. That doesnt alter the fact that I sat mesmerized while listening to this and, in fact, played it four or five times immediately after the first go round. If you count yourself a fan of wordless ambient vocal music, or for that matter, if you enjoy ambient drone music period, you should order this EP right now, cause its a special piece of work. You can thank me later! Highly recommended! Bill Binkelman Music reviewer New Age Reporter

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