NINE MONTHS

SONGS OF PREGNANCY & BIRTH

LINDA ARNOLD
A hit!

Los Angeles Times

Beautifully touching.

Jane Fonda

A musical journey from the first days of pregnancy to the cry of the newborn babe.

Mothering Magazine

SIDE 1

Ambush

Untimely Child

Sleepyhead

Garden

Starting to Grow

Dreams and Still Summer Nights

Heartbeat

SIDE 2

Knocking

Rockabye

Advice

Cookin'

Maybe Today

River

Blue House

Produced by

Eric Thiermann

All compositions by Linda Arnold

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FOLKWAYS FX 6270
SIDE ONE

AMBUSH
High heeled boots
And bright city lights
Smokey bars and late crazy nights
Places to go there's no time to waste
Living life at a madwoman's pace
Then I find your love letter
Waiting in ambush at my door
My heart starts to weaken
So you send me twenty more

The glamour starts to fade
From the theater halls
Lonely nights looking at hotel room walls
And though applause rings in my ears
The words you sent me are all I hear

Then I'm at your door
With my bags packed
And your letters in my hand
I say, I've come to take a chance
Leaving behind the path I'd planned

Love starts flowing
Soon a year passes by
Respect keeps growing
And our hearts are all on fire
Each day feels new, there's so much to share
Your eyes meet mine
And there's magic in the air
Then one day you ask me
Will I have your child
I tell you, No, I feel too young and wild

One day in a cafe I start to cry
Feeling so blue and I don't know why
Before too long the truth comes to me
Deep down within there's a new life to be

Well, the gods of fate are laughing
And I wonder, what will I do
Oh, the gods of fate are laughing
And I'm wondering what to do.

UNTIMELY CHILD
I'm taking my time it's true
But it's hard to decide
Just what I'm going to do
With this new life
Sleeping inside my skin
Unintimely child
Will I let you win

Friends say my eyes look bright
But I feel in the darkness
Searching for some light
And what frightens me
Is that the promises I made
To strive for something
Will soon begin to fade

But I know my man
Will always be
By my side when I need him
And in all my dreams
I've always planned a family

Deep in my heart I know
That in spite of all my fears
I want this child to grow
Oh, I'm slow at change
I'm never ready it seems
But this time I'll take the chance
And bring to life my dreams.

SLEEPYHEAD
Sleepyhead, so very new
While you're growing
I'm dreaming of you
Of the time when I will hold you
Gently in my arms
Child of my dreams
Your mystery charms me

Tiny stranger, three months along
I know you'll be beautiful
And I'm sure that you'll be strong
But will your new eyes
Be the color of the sky
Or green like your father's
Or brown like mine

Will your hair be raven black
Chestnut or strawberry red
Will your moods be in shades of blue
Or sunshine yellow instead
In all my visions
Of who you will be
Child of my dreams
You're a rainbow to me.

GARDEN
Under a full moon one summer's night
A man threw some seeds to the wind
Thinking they'd take flight
But the sweet earth opened
And tucked them in
And soon outside his window
There was a garden

He tends the garden with special care
Always making sure
There's love and sunshine there
He wants the roots to grow
Deep and strong
So the garden will be healthy
His whole life long
In the roots his love is flowing
Deep and strong
Deep and strong
Now he watches the garden
And he waits for Spring
Worried what kind of blossoms
April will bring him
When the Spring is born
A father he will be
For the garden's growing
In his loving help
There's a flower growing
In his lady
In his lady.

STARTING TO GROW
The alarm clock rings
Sleepy faces at the starting line
Breakfast done
The race begins
You're off like lightning
Leaving me behind
Feeling like
The Tortoise and the Hare
Each racing
To get somewhere

Coffee cup in my hand
I watch you disappear into the day
I take a breath
And I make a plan
The sound of rain somehow
Gets in my way
Feeling like
I'm guilty of a crime
If I choose
To take my time

Oh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh o0
ROCKABYE
Rockabye, sweet little baby
There's no need for you to feel so blue
Close your eyes
You don't have to worry
Your mama's standing right beside you
And when the night falls
And you need your sleep
That's the time for dreams
And not the time to weep
Sweet little baby
Let the sandman come to you
I remember my father singing
Scarlet Ribbons as I closed my eyes
His gentle voice wrapped
Softly around me
Now when I think of it, it makes me sigh
Well, my mama
She never sang on key
But somehow that didn't bother me
In my mother's arms
Life was perfect harmony
Do do do
Lalalala bye
You don't have to cry
Mama's standing by
And soon I'll have my own little baby
Someone to sing to when the sun goes down
The words I sing
They won't really matter
Even off key you can make a soothing sound
All you need is a lungful of love
And your child will think
You're an angel from above
Sweet little baby
Let mama's lullabies lay you down
Do do do
Rockabye baby.

ADVICE
There's a lot of people
Who like to give advice
I'm not denying
That they're trying to be nice
But if you listen
You will find
Those friendly people
Are wasting your time
'Cause you're the one
Who really knows what's best for you
Oh, yes, you do
A woman's body
Is a beautiful design
And giving birth
Is what nature had in mind
And she will guide us
If we don't get in her way
Those fearful people
Can lead you astray
It's time we learned
What our bodies can really do
All by themselves
Having a baby
Is a family affair
That's why my man
Is going to be there
In a place where we feel
Safe and warm
This little person
Is going to be born
It's time to celebrate
What Nature can really do.

COOKIN'
Well, I've got a midwife
Whose name is Kate
She's a mighty fine woman
Yes, I think she's great
I went to see her just the other day
Hoping real soon would be what she'd say
But she said, keep on cookin', honey
Cookin' that baby with love
Well, I've got a big round oven
And I'm cookin' my baby with love
Cookin' nine months
And it's all on account of love
I'm using Mother Nature's
Time-tested recipe
I've got a good-lookin' man
Who treats me fine
When the sun goes down
He makes my temperature climb
He rolls me in his arms and he holds me tight
Says he wants to make sure
This baby turns out right
He says, let's keep on cookin', honey
Cookin' this baby with love
I've got a big round oven
And I'm cookin' my baby with love
Cookin' nine months
And it's all on account of love
It's good ol' Mama Nature's
Procreative cookery.

MAYBE TODAY
Maybe, maybe today
My little baby will come
Spring skies are here so clear and blue
Sweet little one
The world is waiting to greet you
Sunrise to sunset
I waited for you yesterday
I felt so sure that you'd appear
Perhaps tomorrow
Little one you will be here
Someday soon without warning
I'll be taken by surprise
I'll have grown tired of waiting
And that's when my child will arrive
But maybe, maybe today
My little baby will come
With skin so soft and vision so new
Sweet little one
How I'm longing to see you.

BLUE HOUSE
The house we share is the color of blue
It's an old place just the paint is new
But the foundation's strong
And like our love
It's going to last for a long, long time
In an earthquake or a heartbreak
We'll pull through
In the middle of Spring the stork dropped in
And brought to our house a real whirlwind
But she's wonderful and strong
And like our love
She'll be growing for a long, long time
Terrible two's to high-heeled shoes
We'll pull through
Now, there's a brand new voice
That starts my day
Telling me she's ready to get up and play
And the spirit in her song
Is the spirit of life
Let's sing it for a long, long time
In a hurricane through joy and pain
We'll pull through.

RIVER
Let the ocean be my guide
When the pains of labor come to greet me
Swelling up and breaking
Just like waves out on the sea
Oh, I'm going to let this little child
Flow right out of me
Like a river that opens to the sea
I'm going to let this little child
Flow out of me
I've been talking to my fears
I've told them all to drift away
They'd hang around my neck to make me drown
If I let them stay
So I let my tears
Wash them all away
Like a river that opens to the sea
I'm going to let my fears
Flow out of me
The ocean is so deep
It makes me feel very small
Oh, there's so many miracles of life
That I can'tathom at all
Like being born
And when it's time for death to call
An ancient river of blood
Will flow on through me
When the time comes
to set this child free
Do do do...

All Compositions by Linda Arnold
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and David Coffin at Wally Heider
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