

Seventeen Years

Words & Music by Jennifer Schaffer

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Waiting to emerge
A cicada from the ground
Lost but then your found
Amongst the decomposed debris
First you die then you are
Reborn amongst the trees
And after 17 long years
You have finally broken free
after 17 long years
You have finally broken free

Mothered way too young
To support a family
The Agency agreed
And took away her baby son
She burrowed deep and dark
And dreamt about a reunion
And for 17 long years
She refused to come undone
And for 17 long years
She refused to come undone

She played house then suffered it
Just a fragile doll herself
She baked a cake once a year
And moved the homestead north of Guelph
Made a world where no one could reach her
Or ever teach her
To feel the shame that was dealt

She'll use her strong new voice
To call her one true love back home
He may hear it rise above
The cacophony so grand
But it ain't no siren's song
The jagged rocks reduced to sand
And after 17 long years
He returns to hold her hand
After 17 long years
He's prepared to hold her hand
After 17 long years...