

Michelle Shocked, V.F.D.

(Michelle Shocked)

Me and my friend and this boy named Eddie
We was bored one afternoon
We was sitting in the hay
It was a hot Texas day
And we was playing with matches like some kids do

We would throw our matches in the high dry grass
Close our eyes and count to ten
And then race the burning field
Doin' the toe and heel
We'd die laughing
We'd do it all over again

I'm singing
Where there's smoke there's sure to be a fire
Ready, steady, go, it was down to the wire
We was racing inevitability
We was making trouble for the V.F.D.
(That's the Volunteer Fire Department, now)

Oh, I'm sure that you know how this story goes
Our little fire ran out of control
Somebody called for the V.F.D.
It was not me, it weren't me, Jack

A-ha, they drive from fifteen miles away
So when they arrive, I'm sorry to say
That the field was black
Yes, and the sky was grey
And you know those barns they store hay in...?

A-ha, the volunteers all shook their heads
And then I recall one of them said
'This fire was no accident
No, this fire started with a match'

I slowly backed into the crowd
Me and Eddie we looked at each other
We never mentioned it to this day
But my friend, she went and told her mother all
Jesus!
(Can you believe that?)

She said
'Where there's smoke there's sure to be a fire
Ready, steady, go, it was down to the wire
We was racing inevitability, ma
We was making trouble for the V.F.D., ma
We was raising insurance premiums, ma
We was spreading fear of arson
We was spreading fear of arson
All around Kelsey'