Mending
We Gathered at Wakerobin Hollow is a four hour, 39 song, speculative fiction song cycle, released in nine chapters over 18 months. Combining character-driven songwriting with drone and noise, the project traces the lives of a family and friends over a 40 year period in a series of connected vignettes. The broad narrative, told chronologically from multiple points-of-view, is set in motion by a catastrophic fire at an oil refinery in Odena, Alabama. We watch children become adults, spread out to Asheville, New York, and Bennington, get jobs, fall in and out of love, and families grow. But climate change, coastal flooding, and an increasingly authoritarian government transform their day-to-day lives, eventually leading them all to Odena and Wakerobin Hollow.

The songs, arranged for piano, voice, synthesizers, noise and field-recording, explore female friendship, familial relationships, government militarization, and the ways climate change is, and will, affect our lives.

We Gathered at Wakerobin Hollow was released in nine chapters, on cassette and digital, with a new chapter every two months from August 2018-December 2019. It constitutes Book 01 of the *Wakerobin Archive* an ongoing experiment in serial storytelling through song. Book 02 commences in March 2020.

Mending is Kate Adams and Joshua Dumas. They cowrite all the words and music.

RIYL: Low, Julianna Barwick, Grouper, Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith, Stars of the Lid, Tim Hecker, Amiina

The Characters:
Emma: runs the farm at Wakerobin Hollow in Odena
Jen: her younger sister, also stays in Odena
Julia: a friend, attends college in Asheville, ends up in Brooklyn
Marsha: a friend, college in Asheville, also moves to Brooklyn, then back to Odena
Alan: Emma and Jen's father, worked (and was injured) at the refinery
Jon: Emma's husband
Christopher: Emma and Jon's son, born in Year 33

The Settings:
Odena and Jacksontown Alabama
Asheville North Carolina
Brooklyn New York
Bennington Vermont

Release Dates:
08/03/2018 – Chapter 01: It All Starts in Odena ~ Year 00-17
10/05/2018 – Chapter 02: A Few Years in Asheville ~ Year 18-30

12/07/2018 – Chapter 03: Julia Coming and Going ~ Year 31-32
02/01/2019 – Chapter 04: Homeward ~ Year 32-33
04/05/2019 – Chapter 05: Sisters ~ Year 33
06/07/2019 – Chapter 06: Rebuilding Transmissions ~ Year 33-34
08/02/2019 – Chapter 07: Julia Alone ~ Year 34-37
10/04/2019 – Chapter 08: Everybody's Coming to the Farm ~ Year 37-38
12/06/2019 – Chapter 09: Christopher at the End ~ Year 39-40

Press:
"[M]arked by a sense of weight and poignancy, the melancholic-yet-affirming instrumentation almost conjuring The Antlers' *Hospice*... Ultimately, this sense of awe is what marks the first chapter, and the ambition to explore it so profoundly and patiently seems to be Mending's unique talent." — Various Small Flames

"Gorgeous piano melodies and aching drones underscore a sweeping family drama … the drone-folk equivalent of *In Search of Lost Time.*" — Tome to the Weather Machine

"[B]eautiful combination of sounds and soundscapes, of life yet un-introduced, known, or which we cannot visit yet. The dreamy feel of the atmospheres they create are delectable and juicy." — Come Here Floyd

"Musically, Joshua takes great advantage of noise and field-recordings, using synthesizers which creates a cinematic environment, combined with a piano and a smooth, clean and angelical vocals by Kate, giving a sense of drama, engaging perfectly with the lyrics. The melancholic mood is a constant exaggerated by the static sound -a constant too- that brings the feeling of an old VHS cassette, playing all these nostalgic memories." – Where The Music Meets

"The tune follows a type of recitative introduced by piano, and punctuated with noise and static in the mix. The work as a whole is dark, gritty, and dank in mood, but not in quality. I envision a swirling of dark mist on a rainy, muddy evening." — Composer's Toolbox

"[A] dark and tranquil piece that features various sound fx, a lonesome piano track, and a layered female voice that is both sweet and soft as well as melancholic and haunting." — It's Not Records

Spotify:
https://open.spotify.com/artist/4CIoPsXOb3Fcbf0fKptoxN

Band site:
http://mendingband.com/

Cover Art:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1KrFICg-4g_3jcjKaG07J6NeAYjusd3df

Band Pic:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dRewHxapJyopDqPPjRP7nzw0PGkMnOVX

Purchase:
https://mendingband.bandcamp.com/

Series Bundle:
https://mendingband.bandcamp.com/merch

Email list:
http://eepurl.com/gP9UgL

Tracklist:
Alan at Emma's Cradle
Black Soot
Alan after the Fire
Emma, Jon and the Bee Sting
Nichols Quarry
Alan Wandering
Marsha Works a Weird Shift
Julia is Done with Asheville
Alan Drifting
Downtown Brooklyn
Another Mile
She Visits Home
the Midnight to New York
Something's up with Marsha
Leftover Things
The Back Alley
Some Things in Odena Have Changed
An Old Path with an Old Friend
Emma at Wakerobin
Jen is Going to be an Aunt
Alan Catches a Break
Outside Bennington
It's a Start
the Rocking Horse
Emma calls Julia
Julia writes to Marsha
Marsha calls Julia
Julia writes to Emma

Emma's Mornings
Christopher Playing
Sisters Under the Same Roof Again
Alan Going Home
Gathering at the Farm
Emma at Christopher's Bedside
Christopher's Holiday
And Another Storm
Dad Went For Help
We Heard They're Taking Kids
The End

Credits:
Words and Music by Kate Adams and Joshua Dumas
Recorded and mixed by Joshua Dumas at Pieholden Suite Sound, Chicago IL.
Additional recording at Shape Shoppe, Chicago IL and New York University, Abu Dhabi UAE
Mastered by Scott Craggs at Old Colony Mastering, Scituate, RI.

Bio:
Kate Adams is a singer songwriter currently based in Chicago. She writes dreamy folk songs and plays under her own name as well as with Mending. Joshua Dumas is a sound artist and composer whose recent work has focused on the Climate Data Suites, a series of installations and performances that interpret ecological datasets into music. He lives in New York and performs with Mending and Weatherman.

Story Synopsis:
Chapter 01: It All Starts in Odena
Year 00-18
We meet Emma, her father Alan, her sister Jen, and their friends Julia, Marsha, and Jon. A catastrophic fire at an oil refinery in Odena, Alabama transforms the lives of our characters, each song examining different moments in their youth.

Chapter 02: A Few Years in Asheville
Year 18-30
Marsha and Julia at college in Asheville and after. Alan, having left his family in Odena, wanders the southeast a decade after the fire, struggling with trauma, homelessness, and alcohol.

Chapter 03: Julia Coming and Going
Year 31-32
Julia and Marsha are now living in New York, stretching even farther from Odena and further into an adulthood of new lovers, new homes, and a deepening friendship. But ties to the past remain strong

and events back home compel Julia to visit, where she questions her path in the landscape of her youth.

Chapter 04: Homeward
Year 31-32
Marsha leaves New York and returns to Odena to provide caregiving for her aging parents. While trying to find her footing back home, she revisits old haunts and rekindles old friendships.

Chapter 05: Sisters
Year 33
Two warm quiet moments at the midpoint of our story. A glimpse into Emma and Jon's life on the farm at Wakerobin Hollow, and a loving connection between Emma and Jen as they discuss their pasts and their futures.

Chapter 06: Rebuilding Transmissions
Year 33-34
We return to Emma and Jen's father Alan, who has been estranged and drifting for nearly two decades, having left Odena and his family in the aftermath of the refinery fire. After years of battling alcoholism, PTSD, survivor guilt, and homeless, he gets a new start, and a chance to begin reconnecting with his daughters and his new grandson.

Chapter 07: Julia Alone
Year 34-37
We return to Julia in Brooklyn, as she corresponds, via phone, letter and email, with her friends back home. At first the missives reveal nostalgia and loneliness, but when a massive weather event floods Red Hook and then the new Gowanus desalination plant fails threatening New York's food supply, Julia begins to make plans to return to Odena.

Chapter 08: Everybody's Coming to the Farm
Year 37-38
Floodwaters have claimed the eastern seaboard and pockets of violent conflict erupt as climate refugees clash with an increasingly militarized domestic peacekeeping force, the USDCA. Through this, protector, planner, thoughtful Emma strives for stability by creating an intentional community on her farm at Wakerobin Hollow. She invites friends and family there to seek respite and share resources and build a small haven in an increasingly chaotic world.

Chapter 09: Christopher at The End
Year 39-40
Safe among family and friends in his home, six-year-old Christopher tries to make sense of his rapidly changing world. But unmitigated climate change with increasingly volatile weather, and a militarized authoritarian government threaten the sanctity of Wakerobin Hollow. This chapter, told entirely through the eyes of this young child, filtered and abstracted by his naivete, joy, and fear, brings us to the conclusion of Book 01.