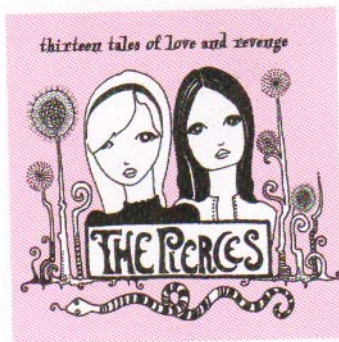


PREEN

THE PIERCES

THIRTEEN TALES OF LOVE AND REVENGE



There's something charmed about The Pierces. And their musical premiere, *Thirteen Tales of Love and Revenge*, seduces with a fairy tale's magic and mystery. The duo's sisters Allison and Catherine are gorgeous and can do both naïve innocent and knowing seductress. Their sound draws on their

Alabama childhood, assorted bohemian adventures and recent life in New York City, where little sis Allison dates the Strokes' Albert Hammond, Jr. While their debut has missteps, it's a delirious, genre-bending romp that ranges from the ominous lullaby "Secret" to the sexed-up "Sticks and Stones," which could be "The Devil Went Down to Georgia" rendered as underground dance hit. Picture Gwen Stefani, but dirty, on the cheeky, 007-flavored "Boring," or the ebullient love letter, "Lights On." Their good looks and slick sound will inspire haters, but such potent, playful pop is no guilty pleasure. — Sarah Tomlinson