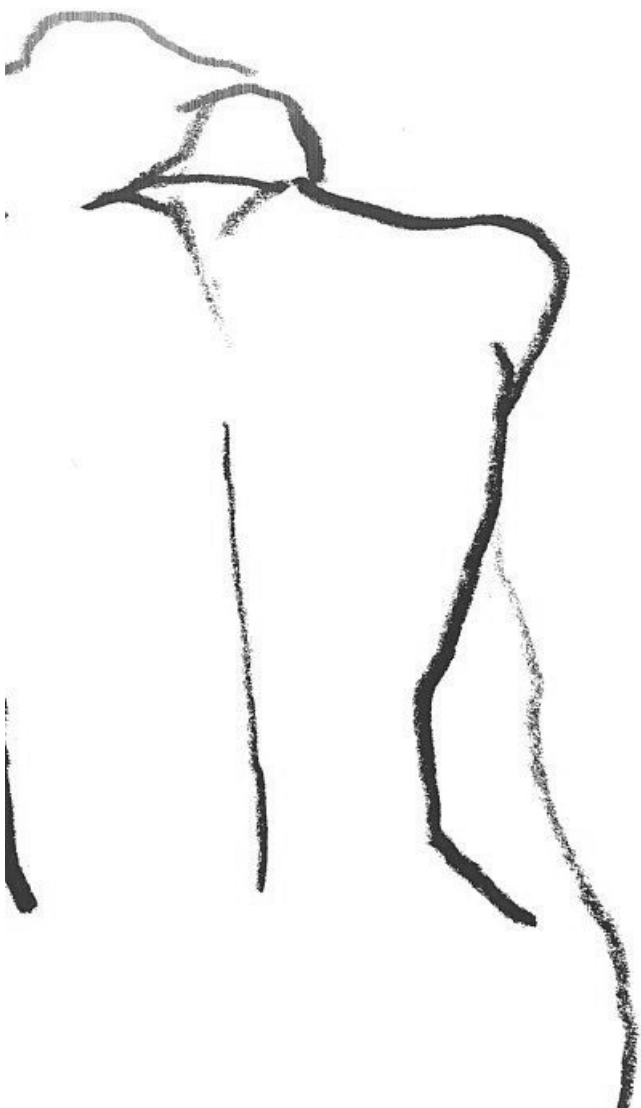


# Where The Light Gets In

*Kathryn Lawn*



I

it was two in the afternoon  
when i was wrapped up  
in bedsheets  
and you sang me that song  
about pretty girls  
in short skirts  
i watched your hands as they played  
across the keys  
and you  
trying not to watch me  
watching you.

## II

i sat in the bathtub

one night

you begged me

to get out

but i couldn't move

i never meant to be rescued

i just wanted the whole

damn world

to love me

so i took off the dress

the one with rosebuds

and sat still

until it didn't hurt

so much

to be whole again.

### III

twisted in sheets

i woke from a dream

pulled from the lake

clothes sticking to my skin,

i turn to tell you

but i am the fever

you forget to notice

watch me,

just watch me

just let me tell you

this one thing

and it'll be the last

i promise.

IV

we've been driving

for hours

it may as well

be days

by midnight

i'm inconsolable

let's not talk

i don't think

i can bare it.

V

i am coming undone

like you

that day

you couldn't find

your cigarettes

so we stood

in the parking lot

and I held your hand

shaking

you said it hurt

i knew it would.

VI

can i have  
one more night  
we can stay on top  
of the covers  
all buttoned up  
but i know  
how it goes  
you'll kiss my neck  
and pull out a knife  
i'll lie still  
while you take all  
the best parts  
of me

## VII

tell me again  
how things will get better  
how there is another girl  
in another life  
who has never felt this.

here is my love  
among the cold,  
dead things  
collapsing in  
on itself  
aching  
for that girl  
who pulled petals  
off daisies  
on the way home.



## VIII

i didn't know  
what love looked like  
when it arrived  
but his voice  
sounded like  
a crack in the wall  
where the light  
gets in.