

# You Will Not Take My Heart Alive

Joanna Newsom

And what do you remember most?  
The line of the sea, seceding the coast?  
Fine capillaries, glowing with cars?  
The comfort you drew from the light of the stars?

And how long did you climb that night  
With the ice in your lungs, on the rungs of the light?  
Beyond recall, you severed all strings  
To everyone, and everything

Oh, silent, constant driver of mine  
Wordlessly calling from the end of the line  
Where even though each hour I ever loved  
Must queue and dive  
Still, you will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart

In martial wind, and in clarion rain  
We minced into battle, wincing in pain  
Not meant for walking, backs bound in twine:  
Not angel or devil  
But level, in time

And I rose, to take my shape at last  
From the dreams that had dogged me, through every past  
When to my soul the body would say:  
You may do what you like  
As long as you stay

Now the towns and forests, highways and plains  
Fall back in circles like an emptying drain  
And I won't come round this way again  
Where the lonely wind abides  
And you will not take my heart, alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart alive  
You will not take my heart