

## Promising Actress

John Vanderslice

in the seconds between the safety unlocks and the shot,  
the story is clear of distortions and tears and you'll know why

we're on mulholland drive  
can you survive a look inside?

like a bomb in reverse, fragments of truth return:  
the money's been paid out, the key's on the table  
you've killed someone you used to love

yes I agree now, her story's a hoax  
recorded impulses laid, dubbed and cross faded,  
it's just light replayed

still I ended on mulholland drive  
can you survive a look inside?

yes I can see now, they had nothing to do with a role refused  
and sometimes a cowboy's just a man in a cowboy suit