

# You Have Never Lived Because You Have Never Died

Listener

I saw 13 black crows as black as 3AM  
and as big as vultures eyes  
with wings hanging to their sides like laundry on the line  
they were standing in a circle letting their tongues dry  
they're coming for me like thieves or ghosts  
stealing songs, and whispering poems to themselves  
about nonsense and existence

I don't want to die

I saw 4 black eagles, with horns growing towards the ground  
like columns or anchors reaching for the bottom  
their feathers folded like hands on a man resting in his coffin  
bending over each other rattling my bones  
drumming out the answers in ways I will need one day  
their hooves are giving me growing pains  
I sleep like a tornado

I saw 18 black hawks, with beaks full of teeth  
roaring like a pack of wolves in perfect V  
with hoods over their eyes to cover up what they've seen  
secrets bouncing off the insides of their lips meant for me  
they landed on my life like spears, ears tucked back like arrow  
feathers  
wings spread wide like storm clouds over kansas  
hailing on me teaching me their dances, they gave me armour

We will never die, we will never die, I don't want to die, we will never die  
we will never die, but we don't want to try, I don't want to die, I won't let you die  
we will never die, we won't even try, but if we never die, then  
we never really live

I saw 9 black owls, they were quiet as death  
they had talons like antlers growing from their hearts  
and they were tearing me apart  
each bird was tagged like cattle with one word  
and they burned them in to my mind...they read  
you have never lived because you have never died