

## WHY SWANS HAVE NO HANDS

*I want to build you a nest  
Beautiful little creature  
I want to make you a nest  
But I'm not coming back  
My heart gave up so silently  
My heart gave up so silently  
Then fiercely removed itself*

*I want to run you a bath  
Beautiful little creature  
But I'm not coming back  
Who will soap your delicate hands?  
My heart gave up so silently  
My heart gave up so silently  
Then fiercely removed itself*

*I saw a swan snorting like a man  
I saw his sisters take off in a diffused ray  
I saw particles moved by my own breath  
I saw a man reduced to a pair of hands*

*I saw a temple constructed without man  
I saw a body as ornamental as a swan  
I saw a swan with its ornaments dropped on the floor  
I saw the one and only possible door*

## THE RIGHT JACKET

*Sleep chalk, sleep chalk, sleep chalk, sleep chalk  
Grinding, grinding, grinding, grinding  
Grinding, grinding, grinding, grinding*

*I hear you've been sleeping still like water  
Do you know I've been visiting parties  
Stevenson trying to mock me on a soft floor  
Beta blockers just steel my limbs*

*One night, I break free  
Of the grip of my own handhold  
And finally I find you  
With your coat on by the front door  
And I feel the most tremendous surge  
Of what I've been grieving for*

*One night  
Will you throw me the right jacket*

## **ACTIONS OF MY MOUTH**

*This type of story  
Has a pattern  
In the books I've read  
Clean as a shell  
I try to hold it  
In the burning actions of my mouth  
But the pattern breaks  
The story fades*

*Touching you  
Feels good  
No-one ever read to me  
About that*

*This type of story  
Has a pattern  
In the books I've read  
Clean as a shell  
I try to hold it  
In the burning actions of my mouth  
But the pattern breaks  
The story fades*

## **ALWAYS ON MY MIND**

*The first kiss is  
A foreign organ  
Your face is  
Weeks of new information*

*The patterns pile up  
The patterns pile up*

*I needed to work slow  
And I needed to work alone  
I needed to work nights (You were always on my mind)  
And I needed you not to mind (You were always on my mind)*

*You were always on my mind (You were always on my mind)  
You were always on my mind (You were always on my mind)  
I needed to work slow (You were always on my mind)  
I needed to work slow*

**CLOSE, DAY**

*Close, day*

*Close, day*

*Your mouth is slack and soft*

*Close, day*

*Your mouth gives the same cold affection*

*To all the upturned faces*

*Time to close, day*

*Close, day*

*I'm sober. It's OK.*

*It's OK*

## JOY

*This bed's blessed with the body  
Pulled from the speeding car  
It wants me to  
Rest too but I can't  
I hold you in time  
And your breath mists the jar  
Sweet and still, and I can love you  
Just the way you are*

*Next summer  
I will wipe the blood off  
I will sniff the sun  
I will lick the blossom  
Til they come undone*

## **FINISH ME OFF**

*You were too sweet to the noise in my spine  
When it was just a night  
When it was just a fight  
Then it spilt out in time*

*Along convincing patterns  
Through startled eyes  
I'm not the violent type  
I can't sleep when you've turned on the light*

*Just finish me off  
In your hand  
In your jaw  
Before your sudden sleep*

*It spilt out in pulmonary shocks  
That I shouted into thin walls  
I discovered and I loved to shout  
Through your hands pushing the blood out*

*And the startled membranes didn't tear  
In the vigour of your fist like I'd feared  
They vibrated and grew  
And your heavy hands were good to me*

*Just finish me off  
In your hand  
In your jaw  
Before your sudden sleep*

