

Tapdance

Kevin Devine

You get back here
You do it so slowly
Do it calm, now
Don't be so angry

I got something
I've been chasing
Every day since I started walking

It just sits here
In the distance
It always flirts with the tips of my fingers

You thought that
You could love it
Until it touched you
And now you just wanna stop it

Well I'm sorry
It's not likely
It was here when you got here
And it'll be here when you're not here no more

And then some days
I get lucky
I can focus and things are less shaky

And I scrape you
Off the pale moon
And I slip you
Into soft shoes

And you tap dance
To a jazz band
On a cruise ship
Near an island

And your hair's up
You wear a short dress
And a wide smile
Your movements are careless

It's a daydream
I keep having
To make the clocks move
While I'm working

Or a bad joke
I can't sit through
And I smile because I feel like I have to

But if you'd look under the table
You'd see I'm playing with my knife
I'm slicing stripes into my kneecaps
And I'm struggling just to come off polite

We could be a snapshot framed and hung like a portrait

What if that's true and I'm the only one who knows it?