

Devotion

Cassandra Jenkins

I think you've mistaken
My desperation
For devotion
For devotion

I walked bedrock
Exposed and barren
Disappeared into the mountains
Knocked on every door
Until one opened

And I felt my arms, rise light as feathers
And the clock hit me like a hammer
And my eyes roll back like porcelain
And the breeze cool me like aspirin
And I cried

If you see my lip start quivering
Don't mistake my breaking open
Breaking open
For broken

I thought I knew how to listen
Until the hair on my skin
Rose in tongues
Ancient, unspoken

Then came the glow
Of a single candle
Through the blinds
In the rising sun