

Jolene

Julia Holter

Cut to the interior of a spacious modern house
Open plan
Open windows
White walls
Wooden furniture
Moss green shutters

A breeze from outside
Translucent curtains
The scent of conifers and summer rain

The two of you are lying in a bed
Covered in soil and dried leaves
The room is filled with light
You're sleeping peacefully
The wind scattering your auburn hair
But she's been awake for hours
The house is changing

She's terrified
But you've never felt more at ease
Everything is so familiar!
The new picture window
The new fourth floor
The new iron staircase

Last night, looking for the bathroom
She walked into a wall that wasn't there the night before
And broke her nose
Last week she tried to leave
But she couldn't find the way back to town
Dirt roads branching and branching

Now she says you've been talking in your sleep
But she won't say what she heard
She's begging you to stop
Before there's nothing of the old house left
But it's too late
It's out of your hands now