## **She Stayed As Steam**

## **Kevin Devine**

All that music in your mouth
Rivers rushing at your teeth
Cresting waves through wading valleys
Flooded language tributaries
Collect and cover over me
Tensing jaw and cork screw eyelids
As if you couldn't bare to see
All that water pouring from you
Collecting clouds inside the ballroom
Over people who don't know you
But darling i do

You trance yourself back from the city Blood not moving to your feet
Your foot falls tentative and muffled Automatic listless shuffle
Your sidewalk scatter brain cry uncle
You paint yourself back in your corner
And look for her on your tv
It's friday night and i am hungry
For a hand, a mouth, a body
A love i wouldn't have to carry

A stitch in my mouth
And i'm untying now
A concrete canal
In a bomb border town
An echo in the rafters
Reminding you there was a sound
But you killed her in waves
So she stayed as steam
To hiss at you now

You killed her in waves
But that's not today
So you breathe through your mouth
Try to calm yourself down
And keep what you found
And shout it out loud

She can hover and hurt
Or dissolve to dirt
Some prayer in your mouth
Or she might stay as steam
So get to the beams
To figure her out