

Swan Dive

Kevin Devine

Broke my jaw with my eyes shut in prayer
Park bench
Knuckles everywhere
Blood in my cheeks
And your teeth in my hair
Looking out at the end of the lie
God's grace
Gutter lullaby
Barbed wire tic for the rest of my life

Oh no, oh my
Brought low, on high
Swan dive
Swan dive
Can't die
Swan dive

Thinning ice at the head of your stairs
Park Slope
I'm barely anywhere
Thread me along through the threat in the air
Doubled-down and you dared me to blink
Thank god
I couldn't overthink
Buried me deep with your palms to the sink

Oh no, oh my
Stay slow inside
Swan dive
Swan dive
Don't die
Swan dive

Hot trash prerequisite
Spiral commensurate
Freedom degraded to shame
Failsafes and hardhats
The baby, the birdbath
Anything else in the way
Of your pure dissolution

Emptying out at the sound of your name

Oh no, oh my
John Doe, clean lines
Swan dive
Swan dive
New life
Swan dive

Swan dive
Swan dive
New life
Swan dive