

## Cardinals II

### The Wonder Years

I know the feeling in the morning when the sun  
Lights the dust that hangs in orbit as you're waking up  
For a moment you feel weightless, then the panic comes  
First a drizzle, then a downpour, then an endless flood

We start to run  
Brothers in the summer dusk  
Far enough  
That no one's ever catching up

I know the feeling when the light begins to fade  
And the dishes in the sink look like a mountain range  
You try to will yourself to stand, but you can't find the strength  
Threw your head against the cold glass of the window pane

You're afraid  
Of what happens when it finally breaks  
And all that remains  
Is shattered glass and constant gray

Bruised and paper cut  
I built a thousand paper cranes for good luck  
But I can't protect you  
I had my chance, and I fucked it up

I stared for years at all the duct tape on the door  
Held together like a patient in a trauma ward  
I still don't know what the fuck they kept it for  
This house is haunted, I can't live in here anymore

Over time  
I realized you were on the other side  
Oh and I  
Can't imagine what that must have felt like

Bruised and paper cut  
I built a thousand paper cranes for good luck  
But I can't protect you  
I had my chance, and I fucked it up

I had that nightmare again  
You're five and you're helpless  
Trapped under the wreckage  
You reach out your hand  
But I'm weak, I can't save you  
No matter how often it plays in my head  
I can't lift it up

Bruised and paper cut  
I built a thousand paper cranes for good luck  
But I can't protect you  
I had my chance, and I fucked it up  
Oh  
I fucked it all up