

## Jennifer Rush

### "The Panther"

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I had a dream, woke up shaking  
The moon breaking through the tress  
And in the stillness of the evening  
I heard a rustling in the leaves  
And I saw a panther in the yard  
Moving slow across the ledge  
With silver eyes and a cool regard  
And hunger with a cutting edge

Open the door, let it in  
This mystery you found  
It's all yours now  
Come lay the panther down

So I called the eagle and the raven said  
My prayer to the sky with the moon as my witness  
I looked the panther in the eye and beheld  
His violent beauty  
That cut so deep and hard  
Through my civilized indifference  
And reckless disregard

So I open the door and let it in  
This mystery I found is all mine now  
Time to lay the panther down

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