

## **Kimya Dawson**

### **"My Mom"**

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have you ever had a dream  
that your favorite baby's drowning  
and you grab him by his sweater sleeve and pull him up  
on to the ground and  
you can hear the water slosh around inside his tiny gut  
push his belly up and down but he can't cough the  
water up  
suddenly a flood comes out his mouth till there is  
nothing left inside of him  
he's empty now  
there isn't even one small breath  
and he goes limp in your arms  
all the people's mouths are moving  
all you hear are car alarms  
and you wake up and start to cry  
I will lose my shit if even one more person I know dies  
so please don't die

my mom's sick she's in a hospital bed  
I've got a word for all you ghosts in her head  
and all you skeletons in her closet  
leave her alone  
leave her alone  
leave her alone, please  
because my mom needs you gone  
my mom needs you gone  
as long as she is haunted she'll never get strong  
my mom needs you gone

you traded all your paper clips for a soap dish that way  
your best friend's rubber ducky wouldn't slip and slide  
away  
but he traded his rubber duck for a cigar box to place  
your paper clips in  
Mr. Hooper came to say  
"oh my dear friends Bert and Ernie  
here's a little something for each of you from me  
here are your paper clips and here's your rubber ducky  
how could I ignore such selfless generosity?"

the human body's made up of good and bad bacteria  
but the antibiotics and the antibacterials are killing all

the good ones  
and the bad ones just get stronger and become super  
infections  
it's harder to destroy them and it's harder to detect  
them  
and there's something in her blood  
and there's something in her leg  
and there's something in her brain

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