

Tanita Tikaram

"The Day Before You Came"

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i must have left my house at eight because I always do
my train,
i'm certain left the station just when it was due
i must have read the morningpaper, going into town
and having gotten through the editorial no doubt
i must have frowned
i must have made my desk around a quarter after nine
with letters to be read and heaps of paper waiting to be
signed
i must have gone to lunch at half past twelve or so the
usual place, the usual
bunch and still on top of this I'm pretty sure
it must have rained the day before you came
i must have lit my seventh cigarette at half past two
and at the time I never even noticed I was blue
i must have kept on dragging
through the business of the day and without really
knowing anything I hid
a part of me away at five I must have left there's no
exception to the rule
a matter of routine I've done it ever since
i finished school the train back home again
undoubtedly
i must have read the evening paper then
oh yes, I'm sure my life was well within it's usual frame
the day before you came
i must have opened my front door at eight o'clock or so
and stopped along the way to buy some chinese food
to go
i'm sure I had my dinner watching something on tv
there's not,
i think, a single episode of dallas that I didn't see
i must have gone to bed around a quarter after ten
i need a lot of sleep and so I like to be in bed by then
i must have read a while the latest one by marilyn
french or something in that style
it's funny but I had no sense of living without aim
the day before you came
and turning out the light
i must have yawned and cuddled up to yet another
night
and rattling on the roof I must have heard the sound of

rain
the day before you came

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