

## Tiffany Giardina

### "You Were the Cancer"

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It's the sigh of a building falling down  
It's the world spinning us around  
It's the slip of the surgeon's knife  
And the darker crimes of common existence

It's a missile that's sleeping in the ground  
It's a camera trying to photograph a sound  
It's a case for the basic flaw:  
The end of the film in the coming attractions

It's a cell that's spinning out of control  
It's the light at the edge of a black hole,  
The scream of an orchestra,  
A total collapse or an over reaction

In your blood there is a sad sad song  
Circulating through your nervous system  
It's killing you and it's bringing me along.  
You were the cancer in my life.  
You were the cancer all the time.  
You were the cancer and that's all you'll  
ever be.

It's the comfort in a bathtub full of ice.  
It's the promise of a peaceful afterlife  
From the string of a violin that's wound  
to tight  
and it's gasping for oxygen.

It's a "signal" that sent out "over the air"  
At the speed of a thousand unheard prayers  
It's the faith in the chemicals:  
A shot in the dark, the size of a particle.

It's the blood from a neon sign,  
Trying to light a way through your insides,  
Make a map of the badlands,  
Watch your life slip through your hands-  
They're not for shaking.  
They're not for praying.  
They're just for holding close everything

you love  
In this fragile little dream.

I see you're coming down and no one  
knows where.  
I see you're coming down with out a prayer.

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