## The Slant

## Ani DiFranco

The slant, a building settling around me My figure female framed crookedly In the threshold of the room

Door scraping floorboards with every openingCarving a rough history of bedroom scenes

The plot hard to follow

The text obscured in the fields of sheets

Slowly gathering the stains of seasons spent lying thereRed and brown like leaves fallen

The colors of an eternal cycle

Fading with the wash cycle

And the rinse cycleAgain an unfamiliar smell Like my name misspelled or misspoken

A cycle broken

The sound of them strongStalking, talking about their prey
Like the way hammer meets nail
Pounding, they say

Pounding out the rhythms of attractionLike a woman was a drum like a body was a weapon Like there was something more they wanted than the journey

Like it was owed to them

Steel toed they walkAnd I'm wondering why this fear of men

Maybe it's because I'm hungry

And like a baby I'm dependent on them

To feed meI am a work in progress

Dressed in the fabric of a world unfolding

Offering me intricate patterns of questions

Rhythms that never come clean

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