

First Reactions After Falling Through the Ice

La Dispute

I knew it was far too late to walk out on the lake then
Halfway to the middle thawed I wasn't doing all that great
 Had I cut my hair short?
 Had I grown my beard out long?
 Had I gone to school or...?
Why do all my plans fall through?
 There's a leak in the basement
 Stupid permanent estrangement
 Casement windows need glazing
 Hinges and arms need be replaced
All the way at the edge I said I think
 That we should head back
 What if now the ice cracked?
 Think I felt it bend
 We took opposite steps
 Tried to even the stress
 Picked a safe direction but
You never know the way the ice thins
 Half-asleep in dreams where
 Ceilings start collapsing
 Free fall through the roof beams
 Get startled back awake
 Before you hit the pavement
 Floor of the foundation
 Water in the basement
 Bodies in the lake
Don't panic I could hear you saying as I fell through
Blackness complete down waiting till my feet touched ground
 At the bottom they finally did
 First reaction was this is it
Next thought was just stay calm kick up
 And save your phone
 Because I wanted to tell you
 Because I thought you should know
 Because I thought it might scare you
 To see me under the ice
Make you remember you cared for me
 What would you do if I died?
 Would you fly out for my funeral?

Get too drunk at my wake?
Would you make a scene then?
Climb in and try to resuscitate me?
I was on the ice and I was underwater
I was getting pulled out, I was in my wet clothes
Stumble on the walk back, someone stoked the fire at camp
I was by the flames trying to get my body warm
I was standing naked checking to see if my phone still worked
I will cut my hair short
Trust me, I will
I will let my beard go
Trust me, I will
I will never tempt fate
Not once, I swear
I will never trust ice
I will never trust a thing

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