

Shame

The risk I took was calculated,
But man, I'm bad at math,
Even when you tell me that you'll stay, every syllable of it comes out
Shame

You told me I was beautiful last month,
And I think I clung onto the words too tight because it has tattooed itself up my spine
I think I'll hold onto that day for years.
Like my dirty rags never cleaned my grandmother's tears
Mental mortality came clear the day a man committed suicide on my mother's bonnet
So I dismantled my body last June and tried to rearrange my fingerprints come Spring
And I just want to kiss you so hard the walls scream
Never mind your father's dirty gun and mother's hollow tears
Eyes like a car crash
This feeling of disappointment is permanently stuck in my throat,
I keep trying to cough it up and everyone thinks I'm sick
Maybe I am
As if there were a control so marvellous you could teach it to eat pain.
But I have been force fed every day of my life.
Shame

My ancestor's bones did not collide for me to fall subject to your crime
As if the votes in the green room could vouch for how much you deserve love
Because no man, not even God, has the power to stop us.
My love charred my father's fingertips
And I'm trying to not burn you but all.
Shame

I don't want my ancestors love to go to waste.
And if my screams couldn't heal their broken bones,
Then I don't know what can
And I think I've failed them now.
My sin is written in my fingerprints
And my veins are laced with it
It's in the way I look at you
Our misdemeanour causes your grandmother to spit in disgust
As she may star at the hummingbird's wing caught fire
But we will do it with practised fingers and passionate mouths
And I swear to god it will be worth something
We are human with the cosmos in our bones and a star in each tooth,
And they will not speak for us
Or invalidate our ardour
Because counting others sins does not make you a saint