

[Important Things]

Couch blankets

My couch blankets still smell like you
From the time we lost control
Hands on each other's curves
Recycling each other's air
Intoxicated with the water trickle, candle burnt ambience
Finally resting our weary minds and hearts
At home in each other's arms
And did nothing, but sleep for hours

A & B Conversation

This selfish part of me
Slick and green jealousy
One of my most ugly parts
Longing to exist in a conversation where I don't belong
The outcome of this act affects me
But it's just a matter of whether or not I am chosen
You'd think after 365 days of practice
I'd be good and patient
I'd be good at waiting
But sweat beads on my hairline
My head screeches, my stomach tosses sour defiantly
I haven't slept, I haven't eaten
I am sick with not knowing my future
Because I always leave it up to you.
And maybe there's nothing even going on right now
Maybe you took a nap, had a meal, got lost in a book

[Important Things]

But maybe you're changing our lives right now

And I have no way of knowing

Preparation

Do you think it's fair? Are you ready?

I fear that you're prepared for this to be happening.

Creeks become rivers drain into lakes and channel into oceans

We didn't get here all at once. We didn't get here alone.

But somehow my heart is alone, and the rushing waters are deafening

We didn't get here alone but now that we are here, I am by myself.

I am holding the dam with my bare damn hands

trying to plug leaks while the sticks splinter my fingertips and peel back my cuticles

And I am the only one doing this.

Am I the only one invested in the prevention of this catastrophe?

Are you really ready?

Am I asking you, or am I asking me?

How could you be ready...

When my fire remains a white flame

with an intensity such that would cause onlookers to shield their humiliated eyes

Why am I acting on this alone? I didn't create this by myself.

We are no accident. Our intent was an astounding beauty.

Our passion dripped from kisses laced with sweat

Our famished hearts and bodies fed on each other with vicious ferocity

We churned until we set this current. We set this current. We set it on purpose.

We built canals to keep it under control and continued to flow into each other.

Now I fear you've dried out, and I'm left holding it all back but i'm drowning

Are you ready for me to let go?

[Important Things]

Are you ready for me to let this safe place break, and drift off into the sea?

Are you ready to see that you're losing me?

Important Things

Hello, important things

Hello dishes in the sink

Begging for hygiene

Fresh, clean towels on the living room ottoman

For the fourth day

Piles of dirty laundry

Two in my room, one in his, three in the basement

I'm sorry, I just can't today.

Hello thick warm, wool socks

Crammed into trauma boots at 3am

Someone needs you

Aged wisdom glazed with jaded exhaustion

Always giving and caring

Always compassion and diplomacy

Always the bridesmaid but never the bride

Give it but never use it for myself

Hello my sweet, funny, bright, beautiful son

Time for school

Scrape together a lunch

Grab a quick breakfast

Out the door, dinosaur

But we're late again

because mom couldn't get out of bed

And when you got home mom snapped again

And when your feet pitter-pat out of bed for the bathroom

You found mom crying again

Hello my friends, and my acquaintances

Take a normal conversation

and turn it into self-hatred

Everyone knows that's me

Months will go by and you'll check up on me

I'll say I'm okay and change the subject

[Important Things]

The last time I brought up these thoughts
You regurgitated rage
You all have fulfilling lives
And it's alright that you don't have time
for what I have to offer
My bad outweighs my good

Hello family,
hundreds of miles away
I fled and left you to fend for yourselves
When I could have been watching my nieces grow
I packed up everything I owned and I ran
Now you're so far away
And seeing me becomes a staggering chore
And I never have any good news anymore

Hello, important things.
Would you be better off without me?