

Phantom Pain Tries to Speak

I am embers of the campfire dusted in gray ash
and still hot at 2 in the morning

I am the jellyfish you touch
in the dark water

I am the scary rustle of ceiling to floor curtains
late at night

I am the secret you must live with

I am the strange voice on the phone
you thought for a moment you knew

I am the stone sharp arrow pulled against
a taut bowstring

I am the dangerous river rapid
that sends you over the edge

I am the voice that calls out
“*Set me free!*”

John Fox

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