

# Symptoms of Prophecy

By Camille Rankine

In the new century,  
we lose the art of many things.

For example, at the beep, I communicate  
using the wrong machine.

I called to say we have two lives  
and only one of them is real.

When the phone rings: you could be anybody.  
In the evening: you are homeless

and hunting for good light, as safe a place  
as any to make a bed for the night.

In both my lives, my nerves go bust.  
I'm certain that I'm not

as I appear, that I'm a figment and  
you're not really here.

The struggle  
is authenticity.

I have a message.  
You must believe me.

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