

End of Summer Song (I Can List Several Reasons Why You Should Be Elsewhere Right Now)

by Samuel Fox

My back has been breaking from this heavy heart¹

for it is almost October and everyone I know
lifts up the filter of a cigarette or the bottom of a bottle.
The ash littering this town looks a lot like blow

if you slant your head and cough up enough blood.
Two more friends found dead ten years after high school
and more in rehab. We called it summer and moved on.
But, here am I, Lord, trying my best at renewal

trying my best to remember the body fails anyway.
In this town, the leaves fall softer than apology.
Too many of my friends pop pills or beer tops
and way too many earn their photo next to apathy

in the devil's dictionary. What I've always wanted:
out. Of school. Of the closet. Of this town filled by lies.
But, goddammit: I can't leave. Its as if I haunt
the ones I love, who are all faded as the light around me dies.

¹ from the song "I've Got a Dark Alley and a Bad Idea that Says You Should Shut Your Mouth" written by Pete Wentz of Fall Out Boy