Not a Swan Song

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Not a Swan Song

Shannon Leigh

You’ve heard the fire-and-brimstone song
Of damnation raining down
Where rack and ruin rumble
And buildings tumble to the ground

Some like this idea of a world ablaze

But what if the end of days
Is blue?

What if the world we know will end
In gently lapping waves
That climb the shore so slow
We waste our chance for last-ditch saves?

What if our feet are wet
Before we even see the risk?
And we only fight once it’s too late:
A quick-sand futile finish.

And when that future crashes
Like an everlasting tide
With mighty cleansing splashes
Upon stony human pride

Perhaps then the apocalypse,
As some said all along,
Will not be heralded by trumpets
But by blue notes of whale song.