

Anne Sofie von Otter, The Day Before You Came

I must have left my house at eight, because I always do
My train, I'm certain, left the station just when it was due
I must have read the morning paper going into town
And having gotten through the editorial, no doubt I must have frowned
I must have made my desk around a quarter after nine
With letters to be read and heaps of papers waiting to be signed
I must have gone to lunch at half past twelve or so
The usual place, the usual bunch
And still on top of this I'm pretty sure it must have rained
The day before you came
I must have lit my seventh cigarette at half past two
And at the time I never even noticed I was blue
I must have kept on dragging through the business of the day
Without really knowing anything, I hid a part of me away
At five I must have left, there's no exception to the rule
A matter of routine, I've done it ever since I finished school
The train back home again undoubtedly
I must have read the evening papers then
Oh, yes, I'm sure my life was well within its usual frame
The day before you came
I must have opened my front door at eight O'clock or so
And stopped along the way to buy some Chinese food to go
I'm sure I had my dinner watching something on TV
There's not I think, a single episode of Dallas that I didn't see
I must have gone to bed around a quarter after ten
I need a lot of sleep and so I like to be in bed by then
I must have read a while the latest one by Marilyn French
Or something in that style
It's funny, but I had no sense of living without aim
The day before you came
And turning out the light I must have yawned
And cuddled up for yet another night
And rattling on the roof I must have heard the sound of rain
The day before you came