Crater Light
from "The Palm Trees Are Restless: Five poems of Kate Gale"

Music by Mark Abel

\[ j = 78 \]

The man drinking whiskey sours__

tells me about his divorce. The problem was his wife, apparently__

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Music prepared by Jeremy Borum www.jeremyborum.com
She would not lie still. Any movement, any distraction

Spoken or screamed on the edge of hysteria

caused malfunction. She knew this She was warned.

non-cresc.

Yet she moved arms, ears, toes.

with dramatic shape

Stay still, he said. His wife under

churning, relentless
neath. Said it louder. She froze.

The light changed. Moonlight, shadow.

I can't focus, he said.

pull back a bit

She opened her eyes. Can I watch?
Crater Light

Bet-ter not, he said. Noth-ing's going to

with heavy tread

hap-pen, stay still. She knew he was right by the way the

moon's cra - ter seized the light and re-flec-ted it back__

_ to earth through the win-dow___

Un
54 softer able to create light of their own. Some receptors create.

58 \( q = 60 \)

58 \( q = 52 \) accel.

58 She was sure of this. She stayed still, but he was right,

58 nothing happened. What he tells me? She was warned.

58 He
buys me a drink.

Hopes my mind will change.

But

my mind is with his wife in bed, watching the

moon's craters.

Kate Gale's poem appears in the book *Echo Light*, published by Red Mountain Press, Santa Fe, NM