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*Situation Normal*

*It arrives like twilight, and, at first, the eyes  
adjust, meaning tyranny but meaning  
most any kind of poison, meaning  
drip and bloom and seep, meaning  
what is the precise moment and finding  
no precision. Meaning, we live our lives  
in perpetual gradient. Meaning,  
I keep trying to understand how  
I let it happen. Meaning, I am looking  
for the first gesture of collaboration, meaning  
consent. We can talk about being an American  
or we can talk about being a wife.  
Meaning, I said I do so I did. Meaning,  
I was young. I was drowning.  
I didn't want him to touch me and I didn't  
want him to leave. Meaning, fear  
can make you cruel. We can talk about men  
or we can talk about power. Meaning, write a list  
of things you would never do. Meaning,  
you will do them.*