

## ANY CASE

It could have happened.

It must have happened.

It happened earlier on. Later. Closer. Further away.

It happened not to you.

You survived, 'cause you were the first.

You survived, 'cause you were the last.

'Cause you were alone. 'Cause of people. 'Cause you turned left. 'Cause you  
turned right.

'Cause rain was falling. 'Cause a shadow fell.

'Cause of sunny weather.

Lucky thing there was a forest.

Lucky thing there were no trees.

Lucky thing there was a rail, a hook, a plank, a brake,  
a jamb, a turn, a fraction of an inch, a second.

Lucky thing a piece of straw was floating on the water.

Because of, since, and yet, despite.

What would have happened, if not for a hand, a foot,  
a step, a hair's breadth  
from sheer coincidence.

So you're here? Fresh from a moment still ajar?

A one-meshed net, and you made it through that mesh?

I couldn't be more bewildered, bemuted by this.

Listen,

how fast your heart is pounding in me.