

Death's Bell

Death sent his calico cat after me.
I hear the tinkling bell on her collar
each day. She meows late into the
night as though she's never fed,
depriving me of the dreams I need.
Last night I heard words beneath
her yowl. She repeated: Slash your
wrist down the visible veins, Jump
over your sixth floor balcony,
Swallow your entire medicine
cabinet including the hydrogen
peroxide, Tie your powder blue
bedspread into a noose, Inject a
bullet into your skull aiming for
the center of your brain. I'll be
with you until you make a choice

I listen closely till I've heard every
word and drift away into a
purring cat's sleep