Perfumed Anxiety

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MINDAE KADOUS

PERFUMED ANXIETY

It was the summer when twenty-two didn't seem too old
for me and more than four partners was suddenly overlookable,
like everything else wrong with you.

So when you picked me up and I had to open my own car door
and then we snuck into the movies so you wouldn't have to pay,
I still thought it was our first date.

And when we went out dancing together and I watched you
two-step with your ex-girlfriend for "old times sake,"
I still believed it was our second date.

So when you bought my ticket and drinks at the concert because
you couldn't keep your hands off my little black dress,
I still wanted it to be our third date.

It was the summer when all it took was a Coco Channel creation
to know, you were three dates of spilled perfume.