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## Lucy

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*English*

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## Lucy

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*Australopithecus afarensis*: Hominid dating back 3.2 million years

They find a femur  
sticking out of the vegetable mould.

They work their way up  
and work their way down

the hillside, the dry river bed,  
cataloguing every part of her.

I try just as hard to find every lost and loose end  
of my lover but I find myself

lost in her landscape and instead scatter  
like Lucy on the hillside, the dry river bed.

I rope off my life, search memory  
recycle it, turn it

like earth, extract  
meager pieces of protein,

mark it on my map.  
So many bones are collected.

I give them names:  
youth, regret, drug-induced.

When I believe I have collected  
all the bones it starts to rain

the topsoil drains in rivulets  
exposing more –

under the frost-line,  
there is a heart

but for now –  
bone and rain and more bone.