

Mộng Lan

THINGS HUMAN

1

he collects human teeth and bones
nails and hair
anything left over
that tells of a person

his companions
cut rounded smoothed filed down
he goes into the fields of nails
and hair
never finding his way out

2

the body clean
supple
the grime rubbed
off until her thighs were raw

her legs hung by the ankles
upside down like pants left to dry
anchored by the men's laughter
licking her like candy
the stones on the ground eyes

3

how I've come to this place
no one knows
conversations I hear like silence
only worse

in the jar mountain air
hermetically sealed
packets of stars
desiccated waiting for water