

missing link

ape's face hides mine

thrilled to stand, but tilled to find
this scorched skeletal record
that soils trophies won
spun with opposable thumbs

gibbon giblets for which
we give thanks, for filling spaces
in our history
whisper why to me

but lucy's not telling

one fragment and
like over-protective parents
old layers of forgotten vertebrae
will have their say

still looking for proof of a spine
skipped a generation, or a thousand, and ten
buried under times strata, and neglect
when will you ever walk erect

it's the missing link to why