

## The abattoir is Eden

how tenderly the slaughtermen  
hook the carcasses onto rails  
and back them into rooms  
where armfuls of guts  
are lifted from zinc tubs

and placed inside with a touch  
so deft that to know  
they are attaching all the organs  
nerves arteries and veins  
in an instant seems miraculous

see them seal the stomach with their blade  
use a scraper to apply the self-adhesive skin  
suck the hole from the skull  
with their bolt gun so the beast  
leaps to attention

wide-eyed with wonder  
and love for life  
like Adam the moment  
God touches his finger.