

# SAND AND BONE DESERT SPARK

GABRIEL HARTLEY

*Huesos arena* spark  
combine, conjunto  
lost in the desert

burnt and callused feet  
walking, hiding, running:

grain by grain the imprint  
cry by cry the impact  
trade agreement shipment of goods  
more precious to the gods (capital)  
than flesh (accident)

spark, phosphorescence, glimmer  
what remains of lives given up  
to the glow of memory—darkness

imprints in air and sand  
their last breath  
a suck of my own breathing  
spin and dizzy the sand  
sing and measure the sorrow

of a child at home now motherless  
now fatherless  
with only grain of bone of sand to testify  
to the pull of love's immediacy  
responsibility  
and strength

blood and bone and sand  
to the rhythm of riches and nations  
spilled and spent

left to the spark of memory

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