

**Marionette, Condition: Fair**

This body belonged to God  
before it belonged to men—

eventually a man, who transformed it  
into a fractured vessel belonging

to children. What is this body now,  
what use? A puppet with severed strings,

never loved but overused, no value to God—  
stained and uncontrollable,

masking tape over a severed middle, nicks and marks  
no sanding can smooth—worthless to men.

Knot the strings and paint the knees, but what  
do I do with a body that is finally mine?