



## Double Exposure

In the aftermath nothing is impossible  
 nothing unthinkable  
 when the imagination redefines the borders  
 the countries cannot be found on maps  
 and people live between what they were  
 and what they imagine themselves to be  
 or between what they are  
 and what they are imagined to be  
 the high-school student wearing a Japanese army cap  
 and a cast-off white technician's coat  
 is busy rummaging through the Signal Corp's trash-filled oil drums  
 when he turns to find himself remade  
 in a book in which he will always be a scavenger  
 here his eyes can never smolder and they don't  
 as they flicker over the face of the foreigner  
 who half-immortalizes him  
 he knows he is just in time to witness the art  
 by which he becomes the eater of trash  
 the user of refuse one of the lucky ones  
 and his only response is the leaden impassivity of his face  
 this accident he knows  
 but he is unaware of the accident of double exposure  
 whereby suddenly he is standing in a radiant field  
 that stretches for days  
 to reach some steeply-wooded mountains  
 ceremonially-banded by huge swaths of flowing white sheets  
 rivers of them flowing up and down and across the mountain slopes  
 a ritual by which the land is shrouded  
 for that which cannot be atoned