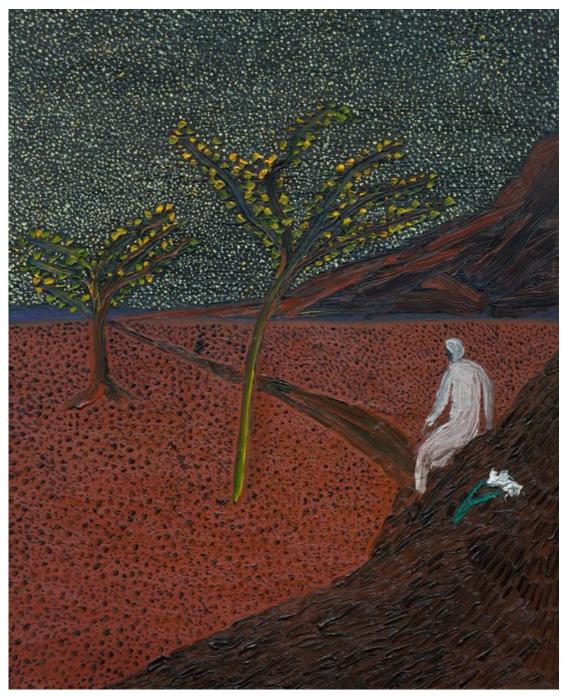
A Porcelain Mask

by <u>Michael Shindler</u> (October 2022)



The West, Matthew Wong, 2017

A porcelain mask lying in the dust At the bottom of a great canyon Looked up At immensities in the wind.

And there was an eastern gust That fell in the face of the sun In worship Until the air had thinned.

But the mask in the dust Kept looking Well past nightfall, Even, into the sweep Of the Milky Way.

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Michael Shindler is a writer living in Washington, DC. His work has appeared in publications including *The American Conservative*, *The American Spectator*, *National Review Online*, *New English Review*, *University Bookman*, and *Providence*. Follow him on Twitter <u>@MichaelShindler</u>.

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