

Karl Plank

ASCENT: 5 HAIKU AFTER GEORGIA O'KEEFE'S "DRAWING XIII" (1916-17)

1. Monks bear the burden
Of firestorm on their shoulders
Thunder bolts the ridgeline
2. Rivering snake crawl
Jigsawed peaks puncturing sky
Hooded figures between
3. Stalactites threaten
Four fingers in procession
By the water edge
4. Forms without color
Map the pilgrim's meander
Through line, slope, and curve
5. Charcoal marks erased
Smudges shadow silently
What is unerased

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