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UNTITLED

Most smart things are said in German:
Hier sitz' ich, forme Menschen
Nach meinem Bilde, or Ich bin
ein Berliner. Which is not exactly
what we'd say, and hardly fair,
but that's the world. Tragic, isn't it.
Translation an elephant that's good
at parties but give it some beer
or teach it to speak German
and suddenly you've got a trunk
about you, two tusks articulating
the air like an umlaut you can't pronounce.
See what respect for difference will get
you?: An elephant's heart drunk and leaning
against the chest's wall, muttering
that's not what I mean at all to whoever
will listen. It's a briar patch
you could sulk under for days
—but all that ivory brooding—
is it too optimistic to hope
for a better employee, someone that'll just
do what you ask? What about a skeleton
held together with peanut butter? That could work.