

SHEN HAOBO

Night of the Full Moon

Translated from Chinese by Liang Yujing

An orphan
stands in the sky.

An orphan with a huge head
is nailed to the boundless sky in light-blue ink

like a Jesus
without grief on his face,

like a painting.
The distance between it and all things on earth

is that between the sky in the painting
and the gasping world.

An orphan
stands in the sky.

A bright,
huge-headed orphan

looks at us,
at seawater, lamplight, me, corrals, cornflowers.

It looks down at everything.
Unwilling to see, it just sees the moment it opens its eyes.