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Beautiful Lesson of the I

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Published by Utah State University Press

Brent, Frances.

Beautiful Lesson of the I: poems.

Logan: Utah State University Press, 2008.

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THUNDERMOUTH

a hand puppet

My hand fits inside the open gray house
of his body.

My thumb and fingers poke bashfully
through the rag hollow.

That is my pointer in the tunnel that leads
to the lopsided mass of his plaster head,

his face, the pencil and water marks
rubbed at the corner,

unrepaired cowlick, clouded
and wandering blue-white of his eyes—

Here is the shapeless messenger
at the immense door

I will open quietly.