Where The Sun Spins Dry

Ellen Satrom*
where the sun spins dry

cattle come grazing
their straight lines:
nose to shoulder,
shoulder to shoulder,
thin as the grass they eat.
skull to ribs to hooves,
their bones show,
muscles wound
around in twine.

the maasai man comes behind,
strung by the sun,
by the pull of muscles wound taut.
his skull, ribs, leg bones show.

legs sway stiff
but straight, no weight,
while in their sockets
hip joints twist dry.