

On Subjugation¹

The boy [redacted]
[redacted] black [redacted]
laced with [redacted] in a complex [redacted]
set of intentional scars. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] stuck in a rod of light
rapidly moving through darkness. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] He is wearing
[redacted] the inside of the body
exposed. [redacted] the
whole skin of an animal taken and
used. [redacted] look at his [redacted] face,
[redacted]
know [redacted]
he could take [redacted]
[redacted] life [redacted]
[redacted] power [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] And he is *still* black
[redacted] without meaning [redacted]
[redacted] from his darkness,
[redacted] he absorbs [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] the heat of the sun and holds it. There is

¹ Booker, M., Olds, S., & Shire, W. (2017). On the Subway. In *Penguin modern POETS 3: Your family, your body* (pp. 44–44). poem, Penguin.

no way to know how [redacted]
[redacted] life, this
life [redacted] could [redacted] so easily [redacted]
break [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] his soul [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] into [redacted] light.