WHAT WAS SAID

DAN MAHONEY

She said how could I use the word *love*
when *Guadalajara* is far prettier.

She asked what I saw in my head
when I stared through the window.
And I, turning away from her, said
something about an unmade bed, rusty tangerines,
the hands of an old man.

She said something dies in snow,
didn't know what to call it.

She curtained the windows, plucked a spider
from the wind-swept valleys of the kitchen sink.
She told me my face was a summer of plums,
a long winter of mountain lions.

Daniel Mahoney is a writer and translator whose work has appeared in journals all over the world. He is the author of *Sunblind Almost Motorcrash*, a book and cassette project (Spork Press 2015) & the chapbook *Quantum Entanglement* (Hard to Swallow, 2017). He is co-editor of the anthology *In the Footsteps of a Shadow: North American Literary Responses to Fernando Pessoa* (MadHat Press, 2025). He is the editor in chief of Bateau Press.