Temptation to Say Words that Cause Pain

told world:
   “there are many rooms in my father’s house”: words
   meant for many, not for all, the novice master said
   to his school of young monks:
       wind
   turned the pages of the priest’s left-open books
       (his hands
cupping the air to make
   rooms): I was among those other
   kids
   told to write: I will not lie to my teacher, I would
not lie:
   in the master’s story the room is a word
       to be
   filled, fulfilled:
       truthfully
   … in the locked cathedral, God
died: image of hands flailing in total darkness in a red
       sea,
   and the sea was the father,
       and the red was the dead
son,
   and the hands were gesticulations of the void
   in a void: one
day the children showed up at the gate, having left behind
   all belongings: the flailing, so many:
       words lost on me: