



Vast Silence

by Sally Cobau

The girls scribble:
Large O,
Demented D,
Curly, swirly S, an elegant
Muse in iron.
The wide ass of the X,
Smack in your face,
The mice skittering up the Z's.
The triangle of purity, a gate, the shape of your
Yawn, the unstoppable

Force of the letters—
The rolling pins
Of movement,
Spiraling, the cortex/the bulb
The hum of the machine: needle, bobbin.

The girls working in the shadows.
We don't hear running,
But we almost hear it.

Image: "Cour des Voraces" by Kenneth Borg. "Vast Silence" was written by Sally Cobau for *Rattle's* Ekphrastic Challenge, March 2020, and selected as the Artist's Choice.