

POSTWAR

Joey Poiriez, a skateboarder
October 3, 1986 – April 20, 2014

And if alien archaeologists
should discover our bones in the future,
there having been some terrible
but inevitable event—the broken

boards of our femurs, the compressed
accordions of our spines; hips and teeth
chipped or missing, ankles shot, both
knees blown out; staples in our skulls—

they would postulate a war our planet
had suffered, guess the weapons we'd used
to cause such pain, devastation.

O, Joey. We're bones already, skeletons
skating the earth. You only went first,
too fast. Let me find you again.