

HILLARY KOBERNICK

A Salt of the Earth Man

“Yoder . . . never disputed the 13 charges”

—*The Mennonite*, January 2, 2015

If boys will be boys and girls are sugar and everything nice
then we see how one girl can become a preservative, staving off

the boy's rot so he doesn't taste off, sour, to the rest of us though he
tastes each girl eventually in turn and she and she and she and she

and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she
and she preserves the meal with sugar and silence, by which I mean not

not speaking but not being heard so she and she and she and she and she
and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she learns

to cut the pie, pass out the pieces without flinching. And if God should
look down and set the truth free, let the church lament that he is a prisoner

to the truth. Let the church disrupt the hands that stitch this story,
let her sing that silence is golden, that she and she and she and she and she

and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she is bronzing
the only gold we have, God, he is a good man, a man who has done so much
good

and if on the way he put glue in her sugar, yes we could taste and see it
or we could tell her to drink the cup given to her. She and she and she

and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she
and she interrupted while he was still speaking. She and she and she and she

and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she and she
moved