

Galileo's Laws of Falling Bodies

(AP: Brazil) Gomes said other documents in the archive show that Mengele assumed the false name of Josef Kabat and worked as a gynecologist in the early 1960's in the town of Mambore.

We were always slightly suspicious  
that you took charge so readily  
at our town meetings. We don't deny,  
however, that we found your command  
graveyardly necessary: your stiff,  
bold arm silenced stoned, suburban  
crackpots, your stare made points moot,  
the surreal instinct for order.  
All in all, save for the strange accent,  
we welcomed your burning coldness.

And, O Dear Lord, what doctoring!  
Never had we seen such glee  
to probe, dissect, and carve women,  
such willingness to talk disease,  
such brusque mocking of superstitions.  
Your summoning of Euro-techniques  
moved and thrilled us: we forgave  
your inclination to frown  
when you delivered dark-haired girls,  
or the over-eager slapping into life  
of our rare blue-eyed boys.

("Galileo's," cont., with break)

And anyways, Herr Doktor, what does the past  
have to do with our now? Your skills  
startled us: the new technology  
that created ice from our body heat,  
rows of obscure journals, the zeal  
to experiment on the Lowlands' kids.  
You never slept or ate our sincere  
gifts of native dishes. Lust-crazed  
Army widows walked under your penthouse  
hourly only to see a pale light on,  
a scientist studying--Heidegger?--

they thought, but actually a man  
hotly desiring, like a eunuch  
after another's wife, drugged dreams  
of dreaming that could cancel  
tomorrow's promise of tropical nights  
in favor of an Aryan winter scene,  
grainy footage of snowbound women,  
thousands upon thousands, loathing  
themselves for ever being conceived.

