

## Lesley Choyce

### SURVIVORS

A terrible morning  
nothing in me but clogged blood  
annoyances, time wasters  
problems with all sorts of dumbstuff  
amazing how you work up to such im potential  
and just sit around hassling yourself  
and the checkbook  
but shit at least  
when I look up in the attic  
to see if I nailed the rat  
I discover that it isn't a rat afterall  
but a mouse  
and he isn't even there  
that he's cleaned the peanut butter  
neatly off the tiny metal trigger  
and he's gone  
vanished back into the insulation  
quietly  
and I didn't even hear him last night.

Imagine this tiny tongue  
only a molecule or so thick  
getting every last taste of the imported goop  
flirting with disaster  
and surviving  
in a weightfree sort of existence  
almost in defiance of gravity  
aloof from the springs and levers and traps  
that lay in wait for the rest of us  
too stupid to live through the night  
in such grace and invisibility.