

June 2011

Intent on Forgetting the Body

Jeongrye Choi

Follow this and additional works at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate>

Recommended Citation

Choi, Jeongrye (2011) "Intent on Forgetting the Body," *Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal*: Vol. 11: Iss. 1, Article 19.

Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate/vol11/iss1/19>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal by an authorized editor of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact ORB@binghamton.edu.

Choi: Intent on Forgetting the Body
**INTENT ON
FORGETTING
THE BODY**



**JEONGRYE
CHOI**

**TRANSLATED BY
BRENDA HILLMAN & WAYNE DE FREMERY**

Opium poppies swayed in the turtle's eyes;
Nakhwa Crags had three-thousand palace girls by its side.

The cat lives beneath the car tire,
the cancer cell beneath the rib,
meowing. Meowing.

When, across from the hospital
far from here,
trains cross the Han,
when they jerk and wriggle across
like cabbage worms,

the snowstorm in the mustard seed,
the distant hill in the cuckoos' cries—

everything is intent on forgetting the body
and the smell of this world.

In the eyelid, into the daydream,
beneath the bluff, the cherry blossoms,
everything floats, scattered and aloft.