

AMONG ANCIENT THINGS

In an arid land
of gastroliths
and squid noses,
life persists,
twists through juniper,
pokes out of yucca,
tangles in mountain mahogany,
hides snakelike
under lichen-eaten stone,
sweeps with noonday sun
through brittle bunch grass,
and sings in the hot, sand-
whisked silence.

Randall Gloege