

# Are There Electrolytes in Flat Lemonade?

*Stephen Nichols*

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Looking in the mirror  
I see my tongue is white  
and there is plaque on my teeth.

Felix motors around my ankles  
in endless figure eights  
while I contemplate  
the consequences of staying home.

The man on the radio talks  
about global warming—  
in a hundred years, he says  
the permafrost will have melted  
and polar bears will be extinct.

Felix coughs up a mouse—  
we watch it for a moment  
expecting it to move.

I take a sip of flat lemonade  
Felix swallows  
Don't worry, I say  
in a hundred years  
no one will care.