I am in Paris

in a hotel of mirrors I wake in the night to show my passion I toss my babies in the *poubelle* down the alleyway I shop for furs at *Le Printemps* I trade your groceries for *parfum* to give away to my new *amie* I phone my husband for money while you are on your knees tell him I am dying of love I'll be home soon

I write all this down in a café where I look for a new lover and quickly turn the page when he comes over to hand me my drink

Later I tell my therapist I say it is the fault of mirrors and of Paris I think he agrees when he tries to kiss me

SUSAN L. HELWIG