

## ASTRONAUT ICE CREAM

The words stood out like a flag on a lunar  
landscape: What the astronauts eat! Beneath  
the words, the silver-suited spaceman  
represented everything we valued:  
ingenuity, bravery, and anti-  
gravity. We held our breath, tore the foil,  
and exposed the neopolitan planks,  
unmeltable, pale, and dry as sidewalk  
chalk. You picked up the strawberry section  
(your favorite), and bit off a mouthful with  
a crunch like acorns under a boot heel.  
It left a little pinkish dust on your  
bottom lip as a flag or a warning,  
but, reckless, I reached for it anyway.