

TOMATO SOUP

Laura Lussier

I'm thinking of a bowl
of tomato soup and a tortoise.

This cough drop tastes
too much like orange
and gives me a fever,
a fever dream of a bowl
of tomato soup that sits
on the back of a tortoise.

The tortoise rests on my stomach
and I feel so warm.

There's a bougainvillea flower
that the tortoise wants to eat
but he can't reach because it floats
in the bowl of soup on his back.

I imagine the bowl emptying.

I imagine giving the tortoise
his tomato heavy flower.

I imagine feeding him.

I imagine him eating while I sleep.