

EVERYTHING

. . . leaves, words, tears,
tin cans, cats,
now and then a tram, lines for flour,
weevils, empty bottles, speeches,
drawn-out images on television,
Colorado beetles, gasoline,
miniature flags, the European Champion's Cup,
trucks with gas cylinders, well-known portraits,
apples rejected for export,
newspapers, loaves of bread,
cheap cooking oil, carnations,
receptions at the airport, lemon syrup, pretzels,
Bucharest salami, diet yoghurt,
Gypsies selling black-market Kents,
Crevedia eggs,
rumors,
television series every Saturday, *ersatz* coffee,
people struggling for peace, choirs,
yield per acre,
Gerovital, plainclothes cops on Victory Street,
the *Song to Romania* festival, Adidas shoes,
Bulgarian canned fruit, jokes, salt-water fish,
everything.

translated by Chrisula Stefanescu and Inta Moriss-Wiest