



# PRINTER'S DEVIL REVIEW

Laura Cherry. *Not Taken but Transformed.*  
Volume 1, Number 1 (Spring 2011)

This online journal is licensed under a Creative Commons  
Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License

<http://pdrjournal.org>

Laura Cherry

## **Not Taken but Transformed**

O beloved object, O fantastic shawl woven  
of gilt threads, chicken wire and slate-blue smoke;  
scent of mango, of pine, of Elizabeth, New Jersey;  
music of champagne glasses, trash compactors,  
and champagne glasses in trash compactors;  
tearfully hot on the tongue as Thai chilis, mysterious  
as a brown-paper bundle from the deep freeze,  
brittle and voluptuous as crème brûlée – you are all  
I can think of, looking from my slough to a rafter  
of stone, the words etched as if waiting all along:  
*Nothing will ever be the same.*