

# How the Other Half Lives

*by* Jerry Ratch

Most of life, it  
turns out,  
is pathetic.  
Very little is funny.

We have to generate our  
own laughter.  
Canned laughter  
may have to do.

Even if we have to carry  
the can around our neck  
like a Saint Bernard  
or strapped to our  
hip like a mother  
with a 2-year old brat  
who's acting up.

When they asked,  
Didn't I want to see how the other half lives?  
my only response was,  
"The other half of what?"

