

E·RATIO

8 · 2006

Four Poems

by Amanda Laughtland

No Laughing Matter

After college everybody said she'd marry
in no time, but the whispered story

of her trouble made the rounds
as it always does. It simply

ruined her socially. This is exactly
what halitosis does to many a woman

without her even realizing it.

In New England

Baked beans soak the night over
for Saturday supper and return

at Sunday breakfast, lavished
on fresh bread. Every summer

begins with a pot of clam chowder.
Everyone's lives are the lives

of former first ladies, not crowded
with knick-knacks like ours.

Try Making Peanut Butter at Home

It's not too hard. Roast shelled peanuts.
Slip off skins. Grind peanuts

in your meat grinder until you find
the desired fineness. Add salt.

Add peanut or vegetable oil.
Stir thoroughly, but don't expect

as creamy and smooth a butter
as your grocer sells in jars.

Faux Gazebo

Everyone wants a shady spot
on your new deck, a trick

made possible when friends
hang a trellis in the twenty minutes

it takes for pizza to arrive.

E·ratio · Laughtland.pdf

POETRY E· JOURNAL

[Current Issue](#)

[Contact](#)

[Archives](#)

[Links](#)