Eating While Reading

What is better

Than this book

And the churn of candy

In your mouth,

Or the balloon of bubble gum,

Or the crack of sunflower seeds,

Or the swig of soda,

Or the twist of beef jerky,

Or the slow slither

Of snow cone syrup

Running down your arms?

What is better than

This sweet dance

On the tongue,

And this book

That pulls you in?

It yells, "Over here!"

And you hurry along

With a red, sticky face.

Gary Soto