

# The Messenger

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Volume 2012  
Issue 1 *The Messenger*, Spring 2012

Article 32

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Spring 2012

## i choke

Betty Holloway

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### Recommended Citation

Holloway, Betty (2012) "i choke," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2012: Iss. 1, Article 32.  
Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2012/iss1/32>

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# i choke

*By Betty Holloway*

down your lighter  
breath only to  
throw it back  
up later or let  
it burn in the  
shallows of my stomach  
for an irresponsible amount  
of time, or maybe it  
will evaporate  
behind my eyes, once  
again blinding me with  
fleshly colors to  
fill the naked  
space between us.