

**Demanding Choices**

*By Anne Lawless*

I chose to be driven  
I chose to be hounded  
By workaholic work ethic.

I chose this research  
I chose to expand it  
I chose to embrace it  
I chose to be obsessed.

I remember my sister  
Who said she had no choice  
But to choose nursing.

I remember my mother  
Who said she had no choice  
But to choose the factory.

I remember her mother  
Who said she had no choice  
But to choose to maid and serve.

I remember my choices  
And they hound and chase me  
And I rejoice  
That I am able to choose  
As my mother and ancestresses  
Never could choose,  
Choose as I have,  
Choosing non-choices.