

SHIZUE SEIGEL

## **survivor**

1

too loud  
you think I don't know  
momentum carries  
over the brink  
drowns out the sound  
of whispering voices  
be careful  
don't hurt yourself  
who do you think you are  
crazy fool

don't know  
what you're talking about  
I shout the voices out of my mind  
and come  
after you

2

cool is the rule  
or maybe the drug  
that keeps you  
from trying  
to change

Easy to believe  
it doesn't matter  
look the other way  
don't rock the boat  
because as my people say  
the nail that sticks up  
will be pounded down

3

maybe it helps  
to have a hard head  
I don't have a cool one  
My sizzling nerves create  
hot air  
all steam  
driving nothing

4

Show me a list of what you've got  
tell me the story of what's not there  
the lover you didn't take  
the night you didn't kill  
the star you never were  
the word you could not speak

I am the anti-poem  
no regrets  
living on borrowed time  
since the day I woke up  
from a coma of stolen Seconds

I'm the one who did it  
you could build sermons  
on my mistakes  
I've had plenty of cause  
to be sorry  
but never a reason to stop