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Philip R. Lee, MD, ScD
*Assistant Secretary for Health
Head, Public Health Service*

Audrey F. Manley, M.D., MPH,
Surgeon General, Acting

Anthony Robbins, MD, *Editor*
U.S. Public Health Service
Room 1826
JFK Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203
Phone: 617-565-1442
FAX: 617-565-4260

Internet: PHR@PHSBOS.
SSW.DHHS.GOV

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They fill our silences. And they
 fill our mouths
 when we try to speak. They
 inhabit vast
 and magnificent cities. The non-
 survivors remember
 Los Angeles as just a dot on the
 map: a stone's throw in the
 sticks where everybody knew
 each
 other's business. And then there
 is the wife
 of the man in Illinois: he's been
 walking
 the streets for thirty years because
 the space
 of her body fills every living
 room of every house
 he sees.

Walk along the banks of the
 Grand Calumet, walk
 to Ground Zero, Nevada, go
 down to Oak Ridge,
 Tennessee. Point out to folks that
 no one can sleep
 in Los Angeles: the breastless,
 hairless ones always
 watching at the city walls, howl-
 ing at the gates
 all night. Everybody wants to be
 an angel.

—DEVRA LEE DAVIS, *PhD, MPH, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services*

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Associate Editor Ned Curran will continue to staff the office in Rockville, MD, but all communication should be with Dr. Robbins

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