

Poems used in the choral cycle *Dreams and Dances* (1992)

Poetry by Lucille Clifton  
Music by Gwyneth Walker

Bones, Be Good! [the poet]

i beg my bones to be good but  
they keep clicking music and  
i spin in the center of myself  
a foolish frightful woman  
moving my skin against the wind and  
tap dancing for my life.

Some Dreams Hang in the Air

some dreams hang in the air  
like smoke. Some dreams  
get all in your clothes and  
be wearing them more than you do and  
you be half the time trying to  
hold them and half the time  
trying to wave them away.  
their smell be all over you and  
they get to your eyes and  
you cry. the fire be gone  
and the wood but some dreams  
hang in the air like smoke  
touching everything

Let There Be New Flowering

let there be new flowering  
in the fields let the fields  
turn mellow for the men  
let the men keep tender  
through the time let the time  
be wrested from the war  
let the war be won  
let love be  
at the end