

Truth

By Gwendolyn Brooks

And if sun comes
How shall we greet him?
Shall we not dread him,
5 Shall we not fear him
After so lengthy a
Session with shade?

10 Though we have wept for him,
Though we have prayed
All through the night-years—
What if we wake one shimmering morning to
Hear the fierce hammering
Of his firm knuckles
15 Hard on the door?

Shall we not shudder?—
Shall we not flee
20 Into the shelter, the dear thick shelter
Of the familiar
Propitious haze?

Sweet is it, sweet is it
To sleep in the coolness
25 Of snug unawareness.

The dark hangs heavily
Over the eyes.