

far memory

By Lucille Clifton

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gloria mundi

5 so knowing,
 what is known?
 that we carry our baggage
 in our cupped hands
 when we burst through
10 the waters of our mother.
 that some are born
 and some are brought
 to the glory of this world.
 that it is more difficult
15 than faith
 to serve only one calling
 one commitment
 one devotion
 in one life.