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won't you celebrate with me

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BY LUCILLE CLIFTON

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won't you celebrate with me
what i have shaped into
a kind of life? i had no model.
born in babylon
both nonwhite and woman
what did i see to be except myself?
i made it up
here on this bridge between
starshine and clay,
my one hand holding tight
my other hand; come celebrate
with me that everyday
something has tried to kill me
and has failed.

Lucille Clifton, "won't you celebrate with me" from *Book of Light*. Copyright © 1993 by Lucille Clifton. Reprinted by permission of Copper Canyon Press.

Source: *Book of Light* (Copper Canyon Press, 1993)

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Lucille Clifton

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