

Because the look in your eyes, so innocent and free

Because of the look in your eyes, so innocent and free
When all you could do was cry
When tears couldn't quench your thirst
Because you were drowning in the rain,
We always seemed to see dark clouds hovering over your head.

But when you smiled, hope gleamed in the corners of your eyes
Because of airs of purpose and perplexing patterns,
Because you had an intention
That lasted and was unlawful,
And you fought back the curse to bewitch you.

And because there were girls laughing and a whole bunch of beer
cans
When feathery tufts of milkweed floated through the wisps of light
in your hair,
Because of your touch and warm embrace
When you remembered how young and so carefree you felt,
You couldn't deny those words so dark.

And that is why you never spoke of that night, so consumed with
sorrow.

*—Ruth Albright, Kyle Brown, Brock Gates, Denise Hoffman, Brit-
tany Long, Melanie Waits, and Stuart Lishan*