

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

**LUCILLE CLIFTON
(AUTHOR)**

by Gwen Walker

Thelma Lucille Clifton was born June 27, 1936, in Depew, NY. Her parents were Samuel Louis Sr. and Thelma Moore Sayles.



GWEN WALKER

Lucille married Fred James Clifton May 10, 1958, and to this union six children were born; Sidney, Fredrica, Channing, Gillian, Graham and Alexia. Mrs. Clifton attended Howard University from 1953-55 and Fredonia State Teachers College, (now State University of New York College at Fredonia) in 1955. Lucille was also an actress in the first performance of James Baldwin's The Amen Corner.

Some of her children's fiction books published are:

- a) The Black BC's

The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE

- b) All Us Come Cross The Water
 - c) Don't You Remember
 - d) My Brother Fine With Me
- Some verse are
- a. Good Times
 - b. An Ordinary Woman
 - c. Good Woman: Poems and a Memoir
- Contributor to Free To Be ... You and Me, Poetry of The Negro, 1746-1970.

Mrs. Clifton is the great-great granddaughter of a slave. Her father read to his children from the Bible but could only write his name. He would tell his children tales of his Dohomean ancestors, especially of his grandmother who had been kidnapped into slavery and whose daughter was the first Black woman to be legally hanged in Virginia.

Lucille Clifton primarily writes about Black urban family life in a style that echoes black speech and music.

Read the "Everett Anderson" series at the West Las Vegas Library.

POET'S CORNER

Big Dreams

By N.D. Lambert - Sista' Girlfriend Inc.

I have big dreams for the future
no matter how strange it seems,
my mind pushes forward — but it keeps coming
back — because I'm only in a dream.
I wish that I could stop the clock
and put all my plans in line —
then one-by-one, set the straight,
and then let them come out right/on time.
Some call it wishful thinking
some think that I'm insane,
at least I'm not just wasting time—
at least I'm using my brain.
Big Dreams —
that's what I got
these dreams will help
achieve a lot.
Big Dreams —
always on my mind,
they'll be Reality in just
a matter of time.
Big Dreams —
I know they can be real - because
everything comes from
a little idea.
Stop the clock, stop the clock,
stop the clock for me,
I wanna see, I wanna see, I want to see
my Dreams, Become Reality.

The Queens Rebellion

(Dedicated To Sister Marzette Lewis)
By Keith A. Brantley

Take heed, my brother
for I have seen
the angry mother,
the furious Queen.
I've seen white turn Purple
in frightened rage
as the tigress ran free
and the hunter was caged.
Our children cried
and mother heard the call;
a Queen took arms
and became mother to us all.
Giving birth to courage and breath to fury;
Queen-mother is judge,
executioner and jury.
Take heed, my brother,
nowhere bound;
the Queen has risen
to seize the crown.
Kings row is open
awaiting seizure
the day is due;
past time for leisure.
Hail to the Queen
giving hell to the hellions
fraudulent kingdoms fall
at the Queens rebellion



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