FROM A LETTER WRITTEN TO DR. W.E. B. DUBOIS BY ALVIN BORGQUEST OF CLARK UNIVERSITY IN MASSACHUSETTS AND DATED APRIL 3, 1905.

"We are pursuing an investigation here on the subject of crying as an expression of the emotions, and should like very much to learn about its peculiarities among the colored people. We have been referred to you as a person competent to give us information on the subject. We desire especially to know about the following salient aspects: 1. Whether the Negro sheds tears..."

reply

he do

she do

they live

they love

they try

they tire

they flee

they fight

they bleed

they break

they moan

they mourn

they weep

they die

they do

they do

they do

Lucille Clifton, from Quilting: Poems 1987-1990. New York: BOA Editions, 1991. 17.