**sorrow song**

BY [LUCILLE CLIFTON](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/lucille-clifton)

for the eyes of the children,

the last to melt,

the last to vaporize,

for the lingering

eyes of the children, staring,

the eyes of the children of

buchenwald,

of viet nam and johannesburg,

for the eyes of the children

of nagasaki,

for the eyes of the children

of middle passage,

for cherokee eyes, ethiopian eyes,

russian eyes, american eyes,

for all that remains of the children,

their eyes,

staring at us, amazed to see

the extraordinary evil in

ordinary men.

**We Real Cool**

BY [GWENDOLYN BROOKS](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/gwendolyn-brooks)

The Pool Players.
        Seven at the Golden Shovel.

            We real cool. We

            Left school. We

            Lurk late. We

            Strike straight. We

            Sing sin. We

            Thin gin. We

            Jazz June. We

            Die soon.