

# Ode to My Hips

by Lucille Clifton

Look out boy  
these hips are coming through!  
These hips'll knock you off your feet  
if you don't make room for them to move.  
These hips sway  
These hips sashay  
These ain't no size 3 1/2 slim Kate Moss  
teenage boy hypocritical hips—  
These hips are woman hips!  
These hips are wide  
These hips hypnotize  
These hips fill a skirt  
the way the wind fills a sail.  
These hips havechutzpah,  
they think they can change the whole world!  
When I take these hips out  
for a walk on the street  
and the sun is shining  
and my bones are gleaming  
I place my hands on these two hips  
and let them speak the truth.