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The Chariot

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The Chariot

Susan Yount

After Langston Hughes

My soul is lodged deep in the river's muddy bosom.

I've always known rivers: ancient, dusky rivers.

I've buried my love in the Euphrates

I've bathed in the Jordan

and drank from the Nile

but my soul has sunk into the Mississippi.

Sweet Chariot carry me down to New Orleans.

I am older than dawns are young.

Sweet Chariot lull me to sleep.

I rise at the sight of you.