

1972

# Dreams to Have

William Stafford

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the victims, will somehow survive. The sun touches  
along and goes away, and while the stars  
come out the sky waits and wherever they look  
it is now and there is still time.

4.

I am time. When you look up  
from this page I will be waiting to go  
with you to the end of the story.

### DREAMS TO HAVE

1.

They film a woman falling from a bridge  
but the camera stops, and she stays  
in the air. I remember that place  
the rest of my life: it is going on  
while events wait for their cues.

2.

Time jerks its way forward and you are  
a long-waiting part, ready, ready,  
walking our town. I round your corner  
and my eyes come true.

3.

At a gallery every picture has us  
in it: a frame back of the frame  
pulls us, and I turn with an awkward  
lope, heading outward. But that urge  
takes me ever toward the center,  
which moves.

4.

A person mixing colors bends low  
when we walk there. "Why are you  
so intent on that bottle you are stirring?"  
And then I know: in that little bottle  
he has the sky.

*William Stafford*