

How the Milky Way Dances on the Head of a Pin Mantra

grandmothers call us home
grandmothers send us out
sit - watch the fire with us
walk - watch the stars with us
listen to the grass sigh
listen to the wind roar

we must shrink small as gnats
we must swallow down seas
dancing on a pin's head
we crack open the earth
where feet strike, caverns yawn
highways of hollowness

light burns warm within me
light burns warm within you
we are the beginning
the end fast in clasped hands
fire summons the river
river makes way for flames

cougar sleeps on a stone
wind wears open a stone
serpent sleeps on a stone
sea cracks open a stone
a god sleeps on a stone
time chafes open a stone

god and cat and snake wake
sun-warmed and stone-heavy
they trace out a new song
sands sung into being
as all that was broken
mends all that lay dreaming

grandfathers scatter us
grandfathers embrace us
come soak in steaming springs
come spin beneath the rain
listen to the grass sigh
listen to the wind roar

Cassandra Windwalker