Poem by Avrom Sutzkever
(Translated from the Yiddish by Benjamin & Barbara Harshav)

Gather Me In  (From Blind Milton – 1954-64)

Gather me in from all the ends of time, from wood and stone,
Embrace me like letters of a burning prayerbook.
Gather me together — so I can be alone,
Alone with you, and you — in all my limbs.

Find me in a grave between the other world and here,
While weighing which of the worlds is better ...
Find me as you avenge half a tear,
And when you see me cooling a hot knife in snow.

Remember, the cloud is sown through with my bones
And rains down with my lightning face.
Gather me together — so I can be alone,
Alone with you, and you — in all my limbs.

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