

# TAKE HEART

## A Conversation in Poetry

*Edited & Introduced by Wesley McNair,  
Maine Poet Laureate*

Today's short lyric by the late Maine poet David Walker greets the arrival of a newborn with both praise and wisdom.

### A Prayer, A Welcome

*by David Walker*

Little wrinkle  
from my flesh, eyelid

curling down at my fool's  
prattle; child

before whom I'm the more  
child—your future

older than my past...  
Forgive the father

I'll be, become all  
I can never know;

teach me to hold  
you for a while, and then

to let go.

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