Black Panther National Anthem

by Elaine Brown Poem published in *The Black Panther* newspaper April 27, 1969

Yes - He turned and be walked Past the eyes of my life. And, he nodded and sang without sound. And his face had the look Of a man who knew strife And a feeling familiarly came around.

REFRAIN:

I said,

Man, where have you been for all these years Man, where were you when I sought you Man, do you know me as I know you Man, am I coming through

And, he spoke in a voice
That was centuries old.
And, be smiled in a way that was strange.
And, his full lips of night
Spoke about our people's plight
And a feeling familiarly came around.

REFRAIN

And, we sat and we talked About freedom and things. And, he told me about what he dreamed. But I knew of that dream Long before he had spoke And a feeling familiarly came around.

REFRAIN