

Calling the Earth to Witness

Zen Master Jok Um (Ken Kessel)

Judge: Bailiff!
Call the next witness

Bailiff: Yes, your honor
Will the earth approach
The bench

Raise your . . .
Right . . .
Hand . . . ???

Do you swear
And if you don't
Why not?

Earth: Would it help?

Bailiff: Well maybe
If you did
People would listen

. . . Not so sure?
Would it hurt?

Earth: You don't want
To know

Bailiff: Mmm
See your point
But
Can't swear
You in
Unless you swear

Y'know
Can't testify
If you
Don't swear

Earth: Ahhh . . .
I do declare

Judge: Close enough
Now let's get
On with it
Name?

Earth: I'm your mother

Judge: My mother's
From Brooklyn

Earth: So you say
Brooklyn
Comes from where?

Judge: New York

Earth: New York
Comes from where?

Judge: America first!
Counselor
Your witness

Lawyer: Mother . . .
May I call you mother?

Earth: Yes dear

Lawyer: Mother
Where does it hurt?

Earth: You
Baby it hurts
When I look at you

And see
How you look
At what
You say you love

When all I
Can say is
This is love?

When I ask
You don't hear

So I cry
Floods

And I sigh
Storms

I'm your mother

What else
Would I do?

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