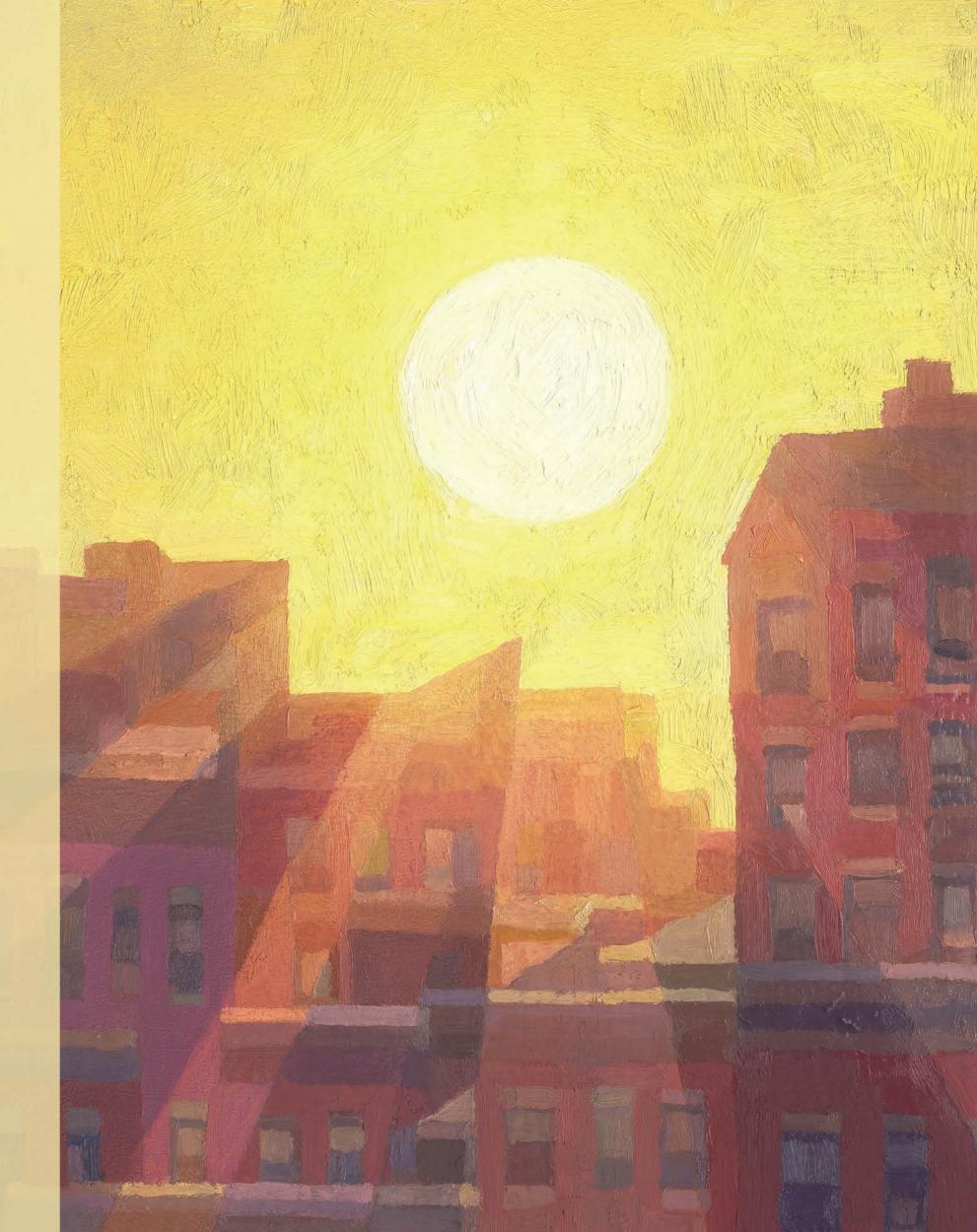
## Awaking in New York

Maya Angelou (1928-2014)

Curtains forcing their will against the wind, children sleep, exchanging dreams with seraphim. The city drags itself awake on subway straps; and I, an alarm, awake as a rumor of war, lie stretching into dawn, unasked and unheeded.





"Awaking in New York" from *Shaker, Why Don't You Sing*? ©1983 by Maya Angelou. Used by permission of Random House LLC and Caged Bird Legacy, LLC, Continuing the Life Work of Maya Angelou at MayaAngelou.com. Artwork (detail) © 2011 William Low, Parkchester/NYC Transit. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design.

## William Low, A Day in Parkchester, 2011