

Celeste Smeland
Artist Statement

My drawing *Where the Spirit Meets the Bone* was inspired by this 1997 poem by poet Miller Williams (1930 – 2015):

Compassion

Have compassion for everyone you meet,
even if they don't want it. What seems conceit,
bad manners or cynicism is always a sign
of things no ears have heard, no eyes have seen.
You do not know what wars are going on
down there where the spirit meets the bone.

Miller Williams daughter, musician and songwriter Lucinda Williams, based her 2014 song *Compassion* on this poem.