The Smallest Wingbeat

Lyrics: Anette Prehn, 2018

Music: Rasmus Skov Borring, 2018

Translation: Heidi Flegal and Anette Prehn, 2019



1. How can there be such power in a wingbeat that distant butterflies can brew a storm?

Just bits of coloured gossamer and string-feet, how can their flutters take on massive form?

Remember, ants can build an ant-world mountain like tiny digits in a giant sum.

Though we may feel like droplets in a fountain, we're part of Earth's great equilibrium.

As breezes blow and cotton clouds go drifting, I realize how closely we are bound:
The smallest wingbeat joins with others, lifting each circle that we share as Earth turns 'round.

2. My childhood seemed a playful sunny Sunday with hide-and-seek in gardens ever young. A butterfly sat on my finger one day. I giggled at its tickly roll-up tongue. Yet more than just a touch of beauty passing, I see today that butterflies have might. I picture all our graceful beats amassing, like Monarchs in a grove that join in flight.

As breezes blow and cotton clouds go drifting, I realize how closely we are bound: The smallest wingbeat joins with others, lifting each circle that we share as Earth turns 'round.