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Hard Data, Soft Data

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Hard Data, Soft Data

Louise Boscacci (University of Wollongong, Australia)

bone nullarbor cradles continent above whale bight
gale-face heaths hug limestone pans
sand curlews call mirning memories
across pink pigface at dawn

upland kneebush and bluebush roll
ridge to swale
cool blowholes talk emptybellied
of sea
wedgetails wait long on karst spirals
but woylies and sticknest builders have gone
to offshore islands
and the museum records

we listen
hard data
soft data
data
dat
datum
all day older people sing spinifex songs from red sand places
there are many dialects
for land
and loss