

Australia – the free country

by Georgia Kenny Watson

This beautiful poem was written by 13-year-old Georgia Kenny Watson from Lindfield, NSW. Georgia wrote the poem for a school assignment about Australia. It was sent in by her mother's friend, Alanna Hardman.

If Australia had a body
It would be made of swirls of red dust
Swept across the surface
It would have few trees scattered around the heart
Curvaceous yet pointy
Beautiful yet dry

If Australia had a face
It would be black
With white edging itself in from the edges
And with no invitation
On Australia's beautiful appearance
Of culture and purity

If Australia had eyes
They would be big
And coloured black, white, and brown
To represent the different races
And reflect their history
And accept them

If Australia had a mouth
It would sing of its past
Of dreamtime and convicts
And wear lipstick of red ochre
And dust which has made its way in

If Australia had hair
It would be curly and tangled
Like the bushes of the Australian outback
Messy, dusty and brown
Beyond the hope of ever being untangled

If Australia had a heart
It would mourn for the stolen generation
And rejoice for the belated reconciliation