

BUSH PEOPLE

(S.Butcher/N. Murray)

In the western desert
look for smoke
on the horizon
watch for tracks
if you find a human footprint
you will be close

approach very slowly
A family is there
Inside a brush windbreak
Out on their own
living on country

Bush people
Living the tribal way
strong and free
Out on their own
Doing fine
as they did long ago

Yirritiya
Anangu ya
Walpalaku
ngurrpa nyinapayi
ngurra wilurarra
manangarrangka
parra ngarapayi
ngurra waltjangka

Anangutjutaya irriti
kunpu nyinapayi
kulinulpiya
Tjulkura ngalayanu ngulurringu
Palunyatjanu nintilpi
Nyinangu walpalaku

*(Long ago the aboriginal people didn't know about white people
They lived in the west and stayed around in their family's spinifex country.
These old people were living bravely in their own world. When they finally saw a
white person there were scared at first. After that they got used to living with white
people.)*

Who will remember?
what its like
To sleep under stars
Without blankets or clothes
electric light or phones

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