

Syd's Songs

Lyn Jacobs

In the long surge between lunch and launch
the spun words spill from the lip
tasting a flavour or two of slanted light before
quitting the business of corridors with a slow
slide down the Humanities stairwell to
cruise along the ring-route's downhill run.

Gathering pace by the staff club,
impressing observers with their momentum,
they repel nudging cars and buses
ignore the options of right or left, and
lift off, over the Medical Centre to
head north-west for the sub-continent.

Later that evening a boy at his music
sounds a note so true that the sky trembles.
His father's words, out-of-sight now,
re-align overseas in new and interesting ways,
before falling like a gentle shower into
the up-turned palms of willing readers.

Lyn Jacobs is Associate Professor (adjunct) in Australian Literature and Australian Studies at Flinders University where she taught English between 1979-2002. She is the author of Against the Grain: Beverley Farmer's Writing (UQP) 2001 and her research, reviews and articles continue to be published locally and internationally.