

University of Western Australia

Charlotte Guest

Prose poems, written by members of the Prose Poetry Project, November 2014 to July 2017, compiled by the editors

Biographical note:

Charlotte Guest is a Western Australian writer and Publishing Officer at University of Western Australia Publishing. Her first collection of poetry *Soap* was published in 2017 by Recent Work Press.

A cygnet was brought in from the lake today, its neck broken by a pure bred dog. I read about the bird in the blue room. I hear swan song, a keening that rises from the disco city and the silver banks beyond it. The journalist is blue and underpaid. Where, she writes, did the rushes go? The freeway casts shadows on my blue room walls. I read somewhere the world itself is residue. The sound of blood in transit is oceanic – I am small again, holding a shell to my ear. The cygnet was buried; the dog put to sleep. Cold stars turn on at the end of blue days.

(from *tract* 2017)