

**Poetry contents**

- Steve Evans *Butcher's Song* page 2
- Les Wicks '*Nudge*' from *The Ways of Waves* page 3

University of Canberra

## Steve Evans

### *Butcher's Song*

#### BUTCHER'S SONG

bodies are wonderful packages  
beautifully wrapped  
bodies are all the Christmases  
I could ever want

some wish to come apart  
they long to be undone  
asking for it shyly  
when their time has come  
each in their own way  
hardly knowing what they desire  
but tired and needing rest

I hear their quiet voices  
before they even think to speak  
I know their best is still hidden  
I offer my little help  
God knows what I must do  
and loves me still

*Steve Evans is an award winning poet who lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Canberra*

---

#### TEXT

Vol 3 No 1 April 1999

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/school/art/text/>

Editors: Nigel Krauth & Tess Brady

[Text@mailbox.gu.edu.au](mailto:Text@mailbox.gu.edu.au)

# Les Wicks

## *'Nudge' from The Ways of Waves*

### NUDGE

Under the morning sun  
they add two more rectangles of colour to  
that quilt of towels on the sand.  
The temperature glides like a kite  
through the whispers of peace.

They shed their asphalt-clothes, flap with  
a lazy passion in the sea  
then lie down in this Australian cathedral to  
sip nothing.

& as they drink  
they lose  
job interviews & murder & need

Their pretences are like occasional litter awaiting  
the turning of the tide.  
Their fingers mine the sand,  
seeking only more.  
Occasional beads of sweat are like a second  
liquid skin designed for a formless future.  
Silence, not touching they meet somewhere  
in that middle where we all seek  
(but can't describe).

Somewhere at the fringes of our plans  
when we gave up hope

Somewhere in the pattern of naked push and silk tie shove,

that spot  
where you change  
and that day is there  
all around you  
& found.

---

### TEXT

Vol 3 No 1 April 1999

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/school/art/text/>

Editors: Nigel Krauth & Tess Brady

[Text@mailbox.gu.edu.au](mailto:Text@mailbox.gu.edu.au)