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## At the Periphery of Trees

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## At the Periphery of Trees *by Matt Hall*

another ascent is observed  
stonily by the way  
water's cold reticence  
laps in fallen currents  
to salve the evidence  
of midlight's  
deleterious shoals

everything extends  
this want of colour  
resins wash ashore  
measures of landscapes recede

to the ritual of this occasion  
bushfire surrounds them  
stalks barrenly across the sky  
in bloodlight somnolence  
finitudes loom over horizons  
how could it be otherwise

**Matt Hall** is working on a dissertation on J.H. Prynne and Violence at the University of Western Australia and a series of poetic essays that pertain to the radical pastoral. His poetry, occasional prose and criticism have been featured in journals around the world. The writers of greatest influence and intrigue to him are Prynne, Veronica Forrest-Thomson, Peter Larkin, Lisa Robertson, J Kinsella, John Wilkinson, Louis Armand, CD Wright, and Keston Sutherland.