

The Corner Of Your Eye

and

Beyond the Bush:

Mythology of place in Australian literature

Kate Lyons

Doctor of Creative Arts

2008

Certificate of authorship/originality

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Student

‘Knowledge was never a matter of geography.
Quite the reverse, it overflows all maps that exist.’
(White 1994, p. 446).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Annette Barlow and Christa Munns of Allen & Unwin for their patience and encouragement during the drafting and editing of my novel. My thanks also go to Sara Lyons and Margo Daly for their reading of early novel drafts. Dr. Debra Adelaide provided much support and insight during the writing and editing of the exegesis and Dr. John Dale provided valuable final supervision. Sara Lyons provided the germ of this idea, and Dr. André van Schaik has offered enduring financial and emotional support.

Contents

Certificate of authorship/originality	ii
Acknowledgements	iv
Contents	v
Chapter one	1
Chapter two	8
Chapter three	25
Chapter four	31
Abstract	253
Introduction: The place of the past	255
Memory and place	268
Mythology and place	273
The mythology of wilderness	279
The romantic self	290
The self as other	298
The marginal self	307
The geography of self	320
The geography of self	320
Bibliography	329

The Corner Of Your Eye

Kate Lyons

Copyright © Kate Lyons 2006

For André

Send me out into another life Lord
because this one is growing faint
I do not think it goes all the way

—W.S. Merwin, *Words From a Totem Animal*

Extract 'Words From a Totem Animal' © 1970 by W.S. Merwin, reprinted with the
permission of the Wylie Agency.