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Whitlams, The "400 Miles From Darwin"

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We pay to shed a sombre tear in the darkness together here

One among the hundreds, crying for the millions

And when the house lights break the trance

Only then unclasp our hands

Compose ourselves and fix our hair

"We would have all been Schindler there"

Drive in silence slowly home

Now horror's more than skin and bone

And can you see in 20 years

We'll pay to shed the same cheap tears?

In a film about an island, watch our hero take a stand

Pay our money gladly to wash our hands

Watching the movie we'll ask how the people might

have known

Let it happen there without a fight

Kept driving on quietly home

Left the Timorese alone

400 miles from Darwin

The 2 minute hate is now the 3 hour love

With any action left to up above

Those people then could turn their heads

Now all the same we sleep instead

While 400 miles form Darwin East Timor is dying

Watching the movie we'll ask how the people might

have known

Let it happen there without a fight

Kept driving on quietly home

Left the Timorese alone

400 miles from Darwin

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