

## Redemption

### "Spark Of The Heart"

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It's a harsh dry land, it breaks your back and scars and  
gnarls your hands  
Now carcasses rot in the sun and dust silts up the  
dams  
Sacked two men when the postie poked those blueys  
through the flyscreen doors  
The welfare state dried up ten years before

It's Hobsons' choice, they run this plain and the flocks  
melt into bone  
You can drove the stock routes for a year and cripple  
life at home  
I still look forward to every day but every day's the  
same  
Awake in a sweat, a dream of the smell of rain

But a river runs silent, runs deep, I work this land, it  
grips me by my feet  
Staying 'til my blood runs cold, spark of the heart, iron  
in the soul

My great grandfather pushed his luck beyond the  
goyder line  
Now all that's left are mute ploughshares and a  
gravestone caulked with lime  
In tribute, I still use his Swiss barometer in vain  
Fate be damned, the weather hasn't changed

Fifty miles by riverland, there's pasture fenced and  
sprayed  
Profit margins chinagraphed on boardrooms in L.A.  
Absenting landlords meet to match their smiles and  
fake suntans  
In three years they'll have leached the soil to sand

But a river runs silent, runs deep, I work this land, it  
grips me by my feet  
Staying 'til my blood runs cold, spark of the heart, iron  
in the soul

Josie searches saltbush, where rain once ran it's course

It's a shock to see a child of twelve grow old upon a  
horse  
The glory box lies locked with memories silent as the  
phone  
But even in the shadows, it's our home

Government relief just might keep breeding stock alive  
The agents jumped the cost of feed and the export  
market's dived  
And if it breaks, I'm still in debt until I'm ninety eight  
Will the last one out please shut the bloody

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