

Sydney Bush Fires

Smell of smoke for last three days.

Searing 40°C temperatures.

Strong winds pushing smoke, ash and burning cinders ever closer.

Radio News - "If you are evacuating go now, the following roads are closing."

Sky fierce orange day and night.

The smoke and ash now choking.

We stay. Watch and wait.

Josephine Noyce

Notes

While this piece reads like a poem, Josephine wrote it as flash fiction, a very brief short story; in this case, only 50 words. She drew on her experience of a fire that threatened her home while she was living in Australia.

Paul Burns