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## Krill Watching

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## Krill Watching

### Abstract

This is a concrete, or visual, found poem about the scientific activity of observing krill in the deep sea. I discovered this concrete found poem in prose that Nicol (2019, p. 200) quoted from Ommanney (1938).

- Nicol, S 2019 'Oceans of krill', in B Nogrady (ed) *The best Australian science writing 2019*, Sydney: NewSouth Publishing.
- Ommanney, FD 1938 *South latitude*, London: Longmans, Green & Co.

### Keywords

Poetry, marine biology, krill

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## Krill Watching

The 'krill'

is a creature  
of delicate and  
feathery beauty,  
reddish brown  
and glassily  
transparent.

It swims with  
that curiously  
intent purpose  
-fulness peculiar  
to shrimps, all  
its feelers alert  
for a touch,  
tremulously  
sensitive, its  
protruding black  
eyes set forward  
like lamps. It  
moves forward  
slowly, deliberately,  
with its feathery  
limbs working in  
rhythms and, at a  
touch of its feelers,  
shoots backward  
with stupefying  
rapidity to begin  
its cautious forward  
p r o g r e s s  
once again.

This concrete found poem was discovered in prose that Nicol (2019, p. 200) quoted from Ommanney (1938).

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