Dear Duck-Billed Platypus

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Dear Duck-Billed Platypus

Abstract
This piece is a concrete poem that both shows and describes the platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*).

Keywords
Zoology, platypus, Ornithorhynchidae, Australia, poetry, concrete poetry

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Dear Duck-Billed Platypus

Michael Leach. School of Rural Health. Monash University, Australia

Your beaverish tail stores a healthy mass of fatty tissue — about 40% of the fat in your whole body. Your otter-like webbed feet & your otter-like fur help you to swim and stay warm, respectively.

You are a chimera made flesh—an Aussie animal humans once thought to be a hybrid or a hoax.

You are now known as a wonder of nature: the sole survivor of the Ornithorhynchidae family and 1 of 5 monotremes.

Your duck-like bill is filled with receptors sensing prey.