


Melbourne scribe Kylie Subski's response to Jacob Rumbiak's "Letter to West Papua's Heroes and Heroines". She read the twins for the first time at the Dan O'Connell Hotel in Carlton on 9 January 2016



**'REPLY TO LETTER TO WEST PAPUA'S  
HEROES AND HEROINES' BY KYLIE SUBSKI**

YOUR FACE WIRED  
WIRED INTO THE WALL  
WITH DARK LIGHT  
OF YOUR STRUGGLES

YOUR WORDS WEEPING  
WEEPING FOR YOUR  
HEROES AND HEROINES  
WEEPING FOR YOUR  
LOST LAND

MY COUNTRY WAS ONCE  
OCCUPIED TOO  
I AM NOW FAR AWAY  
MY HEROES AND HEROINES  
ARE BURIED  
IN THE PAGES OF HISTORY

YOU AND I  
WE ARE NOW STANDING  
ON THE STOLEN LAND  
LAND OCCUPIED  
LIKE YOURS

YOU AND I  
WE ARE NOW LIVING  
IN THE COUNTRY BUILT  
BUILT ON GENOCIDE  
LIKE YOURS

YOU AND I  
WE WILL NEVER  
NONEVER FORGET  
THOSE IN PAIN  
THOSE IN FEAR  
THOSE WHO SUFFER

YOU AND I  
WE WILL ALWAYS BELIEVE IN  
OUR HEROES AND HEROINES  
TO STOP DECEPTION  
TO STOP FALSE PROMISES  
TO OPEN NATION'S EYES

YOU AND I  
WE WILL NEVER  
NONEVER STOP  
UNTIL THE DREAMS OF  
OUR HEROES AND HEROINES  
ARE RECLAIMED  
UNTIL THIS LAND  
UNTIL YOUR LAND  
IS DECOLONIZED

UNTIL DIGNITY  
REVERBERATES HUMANITY

OUR HEROES AND HEROINES'  
DIGNITY REVERBERATES  
REVERBERATES HUMANITY



Kylie Subski (far right, 3<sup>rd</sup> row from front) aired the twin poems LETTER TO WEST PAPUA'S HEROES AND HEROINES by Jacob Rumbiak and her response during Spoken Word at the Dan O'Connell Hotel in Carlton on 9 January 2016. (Photo: Michael Reynolds, far left, front row)