

NATALIE HARKIN

Narungga

White Picket Fence

don't border protect me advance australia *fair* me cultural cliché me
through white hetero-centred normality don't try make me *straight* to
open the gate *don't white picket fence me in...* don't nuclear power me
salt water shower me thicken my air with war and despair don't
concrete my earth medical model my birth *don't white picket fence me in*
don't censor my media with small minded trivia or colonise the space
to put me in my place don't judge my choice silence my voice *don't white*
picket fence me in... don't dig up the sand of *My Grandmother's Land* to
pour a foundation meant for my salvation to cement me in tight make
me *nice* and *polite* then deny me my right to protest and fight *but this*
cannot stop me from thinking . . .oh black-pink-green alliance be clever
in defiance of conservative leaders who oppress diverse thinkers who shout
reconciliation through cultural assimilation who value individual
wealth through black bloodshed and stealth who choke out debate
with their security gate to *white picket fence us in.*