



Blue planet in a darker heaven
ca 2 Ga (and earlier)

By Joanna Beyers

Before geography
land has no mandate or mission.
Peninsulas, lagoons, bays
unnamed, do not exist.
The planet simply propels itself
through space
spins without consciousness
sullen days and longer years.

In shallow oceans, in mats
away from the potent sun,
cells divide. Otherwise
only rocks are alive –
from bare slopes, in changeable beds
cut by fickle streams
they carry time like willing beasts.