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7th September, 1995

John McLaren, Editor  
*Overland*  
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Dear John,

please find enclosed a short story, entitled "Anything That Flickers", which I submit to be considered for publication.

I am a 22-year-old graduate (with 1st class Honours) from the Department of Fine Arts at Sydney University. I have been working as a freelance journalist for almost one year, and have had three full-length feature articles (2,000-3,000 words) published by *Australian Style* magazine, and two 400 word 'gallery' reviews commissioned and published by *Black+White* magazine.

I am a past editor of *Honi Soit*, the Sydney University student newspaper, and had one story and one poem published in last year's edition of *Hermes*, the annual literary magazine sponsored by Sydney University's Union.

At 7,850 words my story is quite long, I realise, but I don't believe anything much would be gained, and probably some lost, if I shortened it. Of course, it is hard to say at this stage, as I have only just finished it, and it's hard to get much critical distance until you've had time to forget about it for a while (sending it off to you is a good way of doing just that!) Regardless of whether you judge it suitable for publication, I would genuinely appreciate your criticism.

Thankyou for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Sebastian Smee