

Appendices

Appendix 1: Aboriginal Constellations

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Deneb (<i>Alpha Cygnus</i>), Capella (<i>Alpha Auriga</i>) and several pairs of faint stars between Auriga and Taurus	Native cat (<i>Par-djidja</i>), Deneb, and opossum (<i>Langgur</i>), Capella, and tracks of the opossum (faint stars).	Origin of markings on these animals	Karadjeri, north-western WA	Piddington 1932:395

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Magellanic Clouds, Canopus (<i>Alpha Carinae</i>), Sirius (<i>Alpha Canis Majoris</i>) and two (undesignated) stars	The Magellanic Clouds are the spirits of two ancestral heroes. <i>Bagaajimbiri</i> , Canopus and Sirius represent two women, <i>Yerinyeri</i> and <i>Wolabun</i> , who collect food together on earth but <i>Yerinyeri</i> continually teases <i>Wolabun</i> about snakes. <i>Wolabun</i> , in revenge, places a dead water snake in a pond which scares <i>Yerinyeri</i> . Both women flee to the sea before going to the sky. <i>Bulian</i> , the great water serpent is also in the sky and his eyes are represented by stars.	<i>Bulian</i> is associated with seasonal change	Karadjeri, WA	Piddington 1930:352-54
<i>Sigma</i> , <i>Delta</i> , <i>Rho</i> , <i>Zeta</i> and <i>Eta Hydrae</i>	These stars form <i>Unwala</i> , an ancestral crab		Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:479
Venus, Jupiter, <i>Lambda</i> and <i>Upsilon Scorpii</i>	Venus, a man (<i>Barrimbida</i>), and Jupiter, a woman (<i>Duwardwara</i>), have two children, <i>Lambda</i> and <i>Upsilon Scorpii</i> .	Strong, south-easterly winds which blow during April	Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:481

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Small (undesigned) stars in Lynx, and two large stars in Lynx (probably <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Lyncis</i>)	Small stars in Lynx are scorpions, old childless star-people who hunt and fish over the sky. They cook over their own fires. <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Lyncis</i> .		Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:481
Magellanic Clouds and Achernar (<i>Alpha Eridani</i>)	The Magellanic Clouds are the camps of an old man and a woman (the <i>Jukara</i>) who cannot gather their own food. Achernar is their fire.	Tides	Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:484–85
The Southern Cross, <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i> and the Coal Sack	Coal Sack is a fish, <i>Alakitja</i> , speared by two brothers, <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Crucis</i> . Their fires are <i>Gamma</i> and <i>Delta Crucis</i> . Their friends are <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i> .	Rock cod	Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:485–87
(Unidentified) October morning stars, the Milky Way and the Coal Sack	A celestial family (<i>Garakma</i>) feed on waterlily bulbs from the Milky Way and from a fruit tree in the Coal Sack.		Oenpelli, NT	Mountford 1956:487

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Southern Cross and the Coal Sack	<i>Nangurgal</i> , a group of starmen (large stars in the Cross) and their sons (smaller stars in the Cross) catch a snake and eat it. The snake is the Coal Sack. The stars of the cross are the bright eyes of the men.		Oenpelli, NT	Mountford 1956:487
Orion, the Hyades, the Pleiades, some stars of Gemini and some stars of Eridanus	Constellation of the Canoe Stars, visible December to March.		Millingimbi, NT	Mountford 1956:495-6
Southern Cross and Pointers <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>	Southern Cross is a stingray eternally pursued by the Pointers which represent a shark.		Galbu (Caldeon Bay), NT	Mountford 1956:496
Stars of Lupus	Scorpion		Yirrkala, NT	Mountford 1956:500

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Magellanic Clouds	Camps of two sisters. The elder sister and her dog live in the Large Magellanic Cloud and the younger sister and her dog live in the Small Magellanic Cloud. The elder sister is believed to leave as only the Small Magellanic Cloud is visible during the dry season, April to September, whereas both are visible during the wet season.		Yirrkala, NT	Mountford 1956:500
Arcturus (<i>Alpha Bootis</i>) Saak (<i>Eta Bootis</i>) and the Moon	Arcturus is a man and Saak a woman.	Dugong, Pandanus <i>rakia</i> (spike-thrush) and tides	Millingimbi, NT	Mountford 1956:495–96
Dark Patch (in the Milky Way between Centaurus and Scorpius), <i>Alpha Centauri</i>	<i>Galalang</i> , an ancestral hero lives in the dark patch. <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i> are two feathers from his headdress, one white from a parrot, the other dark from an owl.	Creation hero	Western Kimberley, WA	Worms 1986:129 Durak 1969:77

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Stars in Canis Major	Wunbula, a Bat, had his two wives, a Brown Snake (<i>Murrumbool</i>) and a Black Snake (<i>Moonditha</i>) impaled on spears for trying to get rid of him by burying him alive. They all went to the sky and the constellation is known as <i>Munowra</i> .		Dharumba, Shoalhaven River area, NSW	Ridley 1875:144-45
Antares (<i>Alpha Scorpii</i>) and the Milky Way	Flying foxes (Milky Way) were angry with <i>Purupriki</i> , a tribal man (Antares), who attacked them. The flying foxes carried <i>Purupriki</i> away.			Roberts and Mountford 1974:32
Southern Cross and <i>Beta Centauri</i>	<i>Mululu</i> (<i>Beta Centauri</i>), a tribal leader, arranged for his four daughters (the stars of the Cross) to climb up to him on the beard of a healer, <i>Conduk</i> .		Kanda	Roberts and Mountford 1974:76

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Southern Cross, <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>	The Southern Cross is the camp of two mothers and their fires are the Pointers. They came to earth in search of food. The fire sticks they carried got out of control. The fire which ensued was captured by people on earth.	Origin and ownership of fire	North-western coast WA, NSW north coast	Roberts and Mountford 1974:94 Ellis 1991:75–77
The Pointers, <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>	Escape of two creation heroes, the Pointers, from bushfire.	Creation of Flinders Ranges	Flinders Ranges, SA	Roberts and Mountford 1974:114 Tunbridge 1988:74
Morning Star (Venus)	Two hawk-men (eagles) who are creation heroes live in the Morning Star.	Creation heroes	Lake Torrens, SA	Worms 1986:134

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Morning Star (Venus) and unspecified stars	Two sons were disrespectful to their father and so were punished. The father became the Morning Star and never again associated with his sons who were turned into stars along with their clubs and kangaroos.	Power of elders	Flinders Ranges, SA	Roberts and Mountford 1974:118 Tunbridge 1988:122-3
Two dark patches in the Milky Way	Evil spirit, <i>Waiwera</i> , abducts a beautiful young dancer named Brolga, and sweeps her up in a willy-willy. She returns to earth changes into a Brolga. <i>Waiwera</i> lives in the dark patches.		Mandalbingu of Arnhem Land, NT	Rule and Goodman 1979:36-45

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>Long line of dark patches (in Milky Way between <i>Alpha Centauri</i> and <i>Alpha Cygnus</i>), the Pleiades, the Gemini twins, Castor and Pollux (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Geminorum</i>), and Procyon (<i>Alpha Canis Minoris</i>)</p>	<p>The dark patches represent a large totem board which was made by two ancestral men, the <i>Wati Kutjara</i>, while on a journey with the Pleiades women. Castor and Pollux, their firesticks, are carried by a man, <i>Tangi</i>, who is represented by Procyon.</p>	<p>Sexual antagonism</p>	<p>Ngadadjara, Warburton Ranges, WA</p>	<p>Tindale 1936:169, 185</p>
<p>Aldebaran (<i>Alpha Tauri</i>)</p>	<p><i>Karambal</i>, a man (<i>Alpha Tauri</i>), absconded with another man's wife. He was pursued by the husband and took refuge in a tree. The pursuer set the tree on fire, the flames of which carried <i>Karambal</i> into the sky. He still retains the colour of the fire.</p>	<p>Kinship laws</p>	<p>Clarence River area, NSW</p>	<p>Mathews 1905:78</p>

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p><i>Lambda</i> and <i>Upsilon Scorpis</i>, Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>), the Northern Crown (<i>Corona Borealis</i>), and Venus</p>	<p><i>Lambda</i> and <i>Upsilon Scorpis</i> represent a crow. Altair is a great hunter, <i>Wukkarno</i>, who had several dogs and a boomerang (Northern Crown). Venus is a man (<i>Mirnakabuli</i>), who lives in a grass 'guri' and subsists on mussels and crayfish.</p>		<p>Darling River, NSW</p>	<p>Mathews 1905:81</p>
<p>Antares (<i>Alpha Scorpis</i>) and Jupiter</p>	<p>Antares is an Eaglehawk. Jupiter is a great man, <i>Wurndawurrinda-yarroa</i>, who lived on roasted yams.</p>		<p>Victorian groups</p>	<p>Massola 1971:41–45</p>
<p>Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>), (<i>Alpha Capricorni</i>) and Achernar (<i>Alpha Eridani</i>)</p>	<p>Altair is a great warrior, <i>Thattiyukul</i>, who, while pursuing a codfish, created the Murray River. In the process, he injured his mother-in-law (<i>Alpha Capricorni</i>), who took revenge and disowned him. He was then rescued and revived by his uncle, represented by Achernar.</p>	<p>Creation of Murray River</p>	<p>Murray River area in NSW/Victoria</p>	<p>Mathews 1905:81–84</p>

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>Antares (<i>Alpha Scorpii</i>) and the two stars either side (probably <i>Tau</i> and <i>Sigma Scorpii</i>)</p>	<p>Antares, an eaglehawk, <i>Gwarmbilla</i>, had two wives, a mallee-hen and a whip-snake. <i>Gulabirra</i>, a lizard-man wanted the wives and they him. The wives, when the eagle was out hunting, left the camp and dug a hole. They put bone spikes in it and filled it with their blood. They covered it to appear as a bandicoot's nest. The eagle was sent to the trap and fell in. His mother pulled him out, covered red with blood (he has been ever since). The mother took the two wives and put them either side of the eagle so they could never stray again. These stars always come up in the east before winter.</p>	<p>Winter</p>	<p>Wongaibon, NSW</p>	<p>Mathews nd.:4, 46, 55–6</p>
<p>Southern Cross, Magellanic Clouds, the Pleiades and Venus</p>	<p>Eaglehawk (Southern Cross) who has his camp in the Magellanic Clouds, chases the Pleiades women. Venus is a woman who came to earth and left a stone, as a reminder.</p>	<p>Sexual antagonism</p>	<p>Wolmeri, WA</p>	<p>Kaberry 1939:12</p>

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Southern Cross	An emu-man resides in the Southern Cross. His daughter was claimed by a giant on an island.		Yaoro, Broome area, WA	Durack 1969:238
Antares (<i>Alpha Scorpii</i> , <i>Tau</i> and <i>Syma Scorpii</i>) and three stars underneath Sirius (<i>Alpha Canis Majoris</i>) and <i>Delta</i> , <i>Epsilon</i> and <i>Zeta Orionis</i>	The two stars either side of Antares are his wives, and the three stars underneath are 'nearly a grandfather' Sirius is a male eagle, whose sisters are the three stars in the belt of Orion. The eagle always follows them.		Western Victoria	Dawson 1981:99–100
Morning and Evening star, Venus	<i>Munjarra</i> , the morning and the evening star was a bright stone in a river before it went up to the sky. The sun insisted it could not stay around during the day. It goes to the sea until the tide washes it into the night sky.	Origin story	Djauan, NT	Robinson 1967:34
Two (undesignated) winter stars	Twin brothers wander across the sky, crying for their grandfather, their mother and their brother.		Gullibul, NSW	Robinson 1965:1965:51–58

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>The Pleiades, Orion and Venus</p>	<p>The <i>Mayi-mayi</i> were seven sisters with long hair and bodies of icicles. A large family of young men, the <i>Berai-Berai</i> (Orion) followed them wanting them as wives, but old <i>Wururna</i> stole two of the women, who finally escaped to their sisters. The <i>Berai-Berai</i> pined for the women and finally died. The <i>Mayi-mayi</i> break ice from their bodies and throw it down to earth as frost. Venus is a relative of the <i>Mayi-mayi</i> and when he saw <i>Wururna's</i> defeat, he laughed with pleasure and is known as the 'Laughing Star'. Thunder in the winter-time is the women of the Pleiades bathing and playing.</p>	<p>Frost and winter rain</p>	<p>Kamilaroi, NSW NSW groups</p>	<p>Ridley 1875:141 Parker 1953:105-27</p>

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Magellanic Clouds, Alnitak, Alnilam and Mintaka (the stars in Orion's Belt), the Coalsack and Venus	Magellanic Clouds are fish, with Orion's belt representing a stick which broke off from a bull-roarer, which is the Coal Sack. (Women are not supposed to know of its existence.) Venus is a black bird.		Lunga, WA	Kaberry 1939:12
Stars in the tail of Scorpius, M7, and the star cluster below	An initiate and his lover flee from initiation rites into the sky (into the curl of the Scorpion's tail). The headdress of the initiate is M7. Two guardians of the boy follow. The star cluster (below M7) is a throwing stick belonging to the guardians.	Necessity of tribal law	Western Desert	Mountford 1948:165-66; 1976b:457-60
Magellanic Clouds, Achernar (<i>Alpha Eridani</i>), Canopus (<i>Alpha Carinae</i>)	Two sky heroes (Large Magellanic Cloud is the elder) decide, when an Aboriginal person is dying, if the man or woman has been good or evil. If the person has been evil, the Large Magellanic Cloud spears the spirit and takes it to Achernar which is the campfire of the younger (Small Magellanic Cloud). After being cooked, it is eaten. If the person has been good, the elder intervenes to protect the spirit, and takes it to Canopus.	Good and evil	Western Desert, SA/NT	Mountford 1948:168

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Coal Sack	Known as the 'Grandmother Spirit' (<i>Puckowe</i>).	Healing		Ramsay Smith 1939:184
Constellations of Delphinus, Lyra, Aquila, parts of Cygnus and parts of Hercules	This Aboriginal constellation is a family of crow-people. Vega (<i>Alpha Lyrae</i>) is the mother-crow who watches her son, Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>), showing off his new feather decorations which are placed on the top of each wing (a third-magnitude star to the east, and a fourth-magnitude star west, of Altair). Father-crow (Delphinus) watches. Aquila, Lyra, (arm of) Hercules and Albireo (<i>Gamma Cygni</i>) are footprints of members of the family and pieces of cooked meat.		Western Desert	Mountford 1948:168-69; 1976b:452-53

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>Coal Sack, the Southern Cross, the Pointers (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>), the 'false cross', <i>P1</i> and <i>Sigma Argus</i> (now <i>Iota</i> and <i>Epsilon Carinae</i> and <i>Kappa</i> and <i>Sigma Puppis</i> - a 1932 revision by the International Astronomical Union Committee divided Argo Navis into Carina, Puppis and Vela)</p>	<p>The Coal Sack is the rest of the Wedgetailed eagle, <i>Waluwara</i> and the Southern Cross are his footprints. The Pointers are his throwing-stick. The 'false cross' in Carina and Vela is the footprint of the Kite-Hawk. (All the bright stars between the Southern Cross and the horizon at the time of the enquiry—9.00p.m. June 1940—were places where the eagle had once killed his prey.)</p>		Western Desert	Mountford 1976b:450-51
<p>Venus, Jupiter and Saturn</p>	<p>Two brothers and a dog. (Jupiter is the dog).</p>		Western Desert	Mountford 1976b:450

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Magellanic Clouds, Canopus (<i>Alpha Carinae</i>), <i>Alpha</i> and <i>Delta Pictoris</i> , Achernar (<i>Alpha Eridani</i>) <i>Beta</i> and <i>Delta Hydrus</i>	The large Magellanic Cloud is the camp of the elder <i>Kungara</i> brother. Canopus is the campfire and the two stars of Pictor represent his spear. The lesser Magellanic Cloud is the camp of the younger brother, Achernar is his campfire and the two stars in Hydra, his spear.	Good and evil after death	Western Desert and Ngalia of the Central Desert	Mountford 1976b:454-56
Double stars in Scorpius and (undesignated) isolated stars nearby	Young men climbed into the sky to bring back sacred objects from a cave in the double stars of Scorpius. Their footprints are the isolated stars nearby. The young men were unable to pull any of the sacred objects from the tightly packed pile. Three older men followed and took some of the objects from the outer ledge of the cave. For a long time, these were stored in one of the Mala caves on the northern side of Ayers Rock, but have been moved for safekeeping.	Sacred objects	Ayers Rock (Uluru), NT	Mountford 1976b:483

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Dark patch	<i>Windaru</i> , a Bandicoot ancestral man stole sacred objects from the Milky Way. The objects used to rest in a dark patch in the Milky Way.	Sacred objects	Western Desert	Mountford 1976b:181
Veta (<i>Alpha Lyrae</i>), Shellak (<i>Beta Lyrae</i>), Sulaphat (<i>Gamma Lyrae</i>), Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>) and Delphinus	Wega is <i>Wommainya</i> , holding out his long beard to rescue from drowning his two sons (Shellak and Sulaphat). In his grief, he has speared to death his wife (Altair) and his wife's lazy brother (Delphinus). The lazy brother is condemned to sit beside his sister forever and not with the other men.	Care of children Marriage rules and kinship regulations	Ooldea region Bibbulmun people, south-western WA	Ker Wilson 1977:28–31 Bates 1992:170
Southern Cross and the Pointers (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>)	When a kangaroo was eaten without permission, an evil spirit caused havoc killing a person, who then went to the sky. Two cockatoos were also upset. The eyes of the evil spirit and the dead Aboriginal person are the Southern Cross and the white cockatoos are the Pointers.	Ecological laws		Reed 1965:34–36

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Morning Star (Venus) and other (undesignated) stars	The Morning Star is two young women, who tried to escape <i>Roll-a-mano</i> , the man of the sea. His flaming branch exploded into sparks when it hit the water. Sparks became the stars. <i>Roll-a-mano</i> made a home in the sky and changed the women into the Morning Star.		Pennefather River area, Queensland	Reed 1965:115–17 Roth 1984(5):8
<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>	Two brothers are burnt to death while cooking an emu. Their distressed mother was turned into a curlew whose cry can still be heard at night.		Flinders Ranges, SA	Ellis 1991:15–18 Tunbridge 1988:110

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Four (undesig-nated) stars in the Milky Way and a Dark Patch	Two men, while circumcising an initiate with a fire stick, sent the lad into shock, which kills him. In revenge an old woman (the boy's mother's father's sister) who lives in the Milky Way in the Dark Patch, kills the two men. The boy, his string cross (representing a star) and the two men join the old woman permanently in the Milky Way.	Initiation and rituals and circumcision	Walbiri, NT Pitjantjatjara, SA, NT Aranda, NT Karadjeri, WA West Kimberley, WA Roper River, NT Arnhem Land, NT	Meggitt 1966:128 Roheim (1934) in Meggitt 1966:128 Spencer & Gillen 1899:224 Piddington (1933) in Meggitt 1966:128 Worms (1950) in Meggitt 1966:128 Berndt(1951)in Meggitt 1966:128 Warner 1937:533, 540
Orion	Crocodile following a string-bark canoe eats the man in the middle of the canoe because the man is sick.		Gagadju, NT	Neidjie 1989:6

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Southern Cross and Pointers (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>)	<i>Mirrabooka</i> is an ancestral hero. His eyes are the pointers and the Southern Cross are his hands and feet.		Stradbroke Is., Queensland	Noonuccal and Bancroft 1993:66–67
Coal Sack	<i>Wawi</i> , the rainbow serpent lives in the deep waterholes of the Darling River. He burrows into the bank. One of <i>Wawi</i> 's ancestors lives in the dark patch, the Coal Sack in the Sky. <i>Wawi</i> can only be visited by a healer by way of a rainbow.		Wiradjeri Weilwan Wongaibon, NSW	Mathews 1905:81; Mathews nd.:40; Radcliffe-Brown 1930:342
“Waving dark shadow in the Milky Way”	The rainbow serpent Karia lives in the Milky Way (as a dark patch).	Associated with the Bora grounds	Kamilaroi Yualarai Kwaibal, NSW	Radcliffe-Brown 1930:344
Southern Cross	Two ancestral spirits who are also brothers are the Southern Cross.		Victorian groups	Isaacs 1980:151
Moon, planet Mars and other (undesigned) small stars	Moon was a very wicked man who went about doing harm. He devoured Eagle (Mars), whose two wives retaliated by striking Moon down. They cut him open and released their husband.		Gippsland, Victoria	Smyth 1972:431–32

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>Castor (<i>Alpha Geminorum</i> and Pollux (<i>Beta Geminorum</i>), Capella (<i>Alpha Aurigae</i>) and the daytime heat phenomenon of the mirage</p>	<p>Castor and Pollux are two hunters, <i>Yurree</i> and <i>Wanjel</i>, who pursue and kill <i>Purra</i>, a kangaroo (<i>Capella</i>). The mirage is the fire on which <i>Purra</i> is cooked.</p>		<p>Boorong and Wotjobaluk, Victorian Mallee</p>	<p>Stanbridge (1857) in MacPherson 1881:72; Massola 1968:111</p>
<p>Berenice's Hair (Coma Berenices)</p>	<p>A tree with three principal branches has birds drinking at the junction of the tree.</p>	<p>Dry weather</p>	<p>Boorong Wotjobaluk, Vic.</p>	<p>Stanbridge (1857) in MacPherson 1881:72; Massola 1968:111</p>
<p>Vega (<i>Alpha Lyrae</i>)</p>	<p>Vega is <i>Neilloan</i>, a mallee-hen and ancestral spirit who shows the people when and how to find the eggs of the mallee-hen.</p>	<p>Availability of mallee-hen eggs</p>	<p>Boorong Wotjobaluk, Vic.</p>	<p>Stanbridge (1857) in MacPherson 1881:72; Massola 1968:11</p>

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Hydra	A great hunter, <i>Barrukill</i> , and his dog sit near a kangaroo-rat. <i>Barrukill</i> is holding a firestick.		Mara, Western Victoria	Dawson 1981:101; Massola 1968:111, 1971:45
The moon and stars in Canis Major	The moon (<i>Mityan</i>), a native cat, fell in love with the wives (stars in Canis Major) of another man. The husband fought <i>Mityan</i> , who lost and was driven off. He has been wandering ever since.		Wotjobaluk, Vic.	Massola 1968:106 Smyth 1972:433
Southern Cross, the Coal Sack and the Pointers (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Veta Centauri</i>)	The Southern Cross is a tree which affords protection to <i>Bunya</i> , an opossum, who is pursued by <i>Tchingal</i> , an emu, represented by the Coal Sack. The Pointers are the two great hunters who kill the emu and their spears are stuck in the tree (the stars of the Southern Cross).		Boorong Wotjobaluk, Vic.	Stanbridge (1857) in MacPherson 1881:72; Massola 1968:106-8 Smyth 1972:433

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Canopus (<i>Alpha Carinae</i>) and a small red star (probably <i>Epsilon Carinae</i>)	Canopus is <i>War</i> , the male crow, and the small red star is the female crow. <i>War</i> is the carrier of fire to Aboriginal people of the Mallee.	Origin of fire	Boorong Wotjobaluk, Vic.	Stanbridge (1857) in MacPherson 1881:72; Massola 1968:21–24, 109
Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>), the Northern Crown (<i>Corona Borealis</i>), Sirius (<i>Alpha Canis Majoris</i>) and Rigel (<i>Beta Orionis</i>)	Altair is <i>Totyarquil</i> , a hunter, the Northern Cross is his boomerang. Sirius and Rigel are the male and female eagle pair (respectively), known as <i>Warepil</i> .	Origin of Murray River	Boorong Wotjobaluk, Vic.	MacPherson 1881:74–75, 78; Massola 1968:24–27, 110–11
Southern Cross	Believed to be an emu.		Kurnai Ya-itma-thang, Victoria	Massola 1968:108

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>), two (undesignated) stars in Sagittarius and Antares (<i>Alpha Scorpii</i>) Southern Cross	Altair is <i>Bunjil</i> , the great eaglehawk; the two men in Sagittarius are two of <i>Bunjil</i> 's young men, <i>Tadjeri</i> , the brush-tailed possum and <i>Tarnung</i> , the gliding phalanger. Antares is <i>Balayang</i> , <i>Bunjil</i> 's brother. Two stars of the Southern Cross represent <i>Yukope</i> , the green parakeet and <i>Dantum</i> , the blue mountain parrot, another two of <i>Bunjil</i> 's young men.		Kulin, Vic. Massola 1968:40, 110 Massola 1968:108	
Morning star	If you look at the morning star, you will suffer separation and divorce from your spouse.	Divorce	Adnyamatana, Flinders Ranges, SA	Tunbridge 1988:45
Magellanic Clouds	Two mates, after journeying together, make a fire which carried them, via a mountain, up to the sky where they keep an eye on people below.	Marriage laws	Flinders Ranges, SA	Tunbridge 1988:95

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>) and the stars on either side, with Vega <i>Alpha Lyrae</i>) and the stars on either side and Delphinus	The Brothers' constellation. Vega is the elder brother and Altair, the younger. Other stars are the sticks they hold. This constellation is associated with the <i>Dogai</i> , a female bogey who is hunted down by <i>Bu</i> (Delphinus).	North-west monsoon	Torres Strait Islands	Haddon in Lawrie 1970:211; Rivers in Haddon 1912(4):220, 221, (5):12-16
Stars of Ursa Major, Arcturus (<i>Alpha Bootis</i>) and <i>Gamma Corona Borealis</i>	Constellation of <i>Baidam</i> (western Torres Strait Islands) or <i>Beizam</i> (eastern Torres Strait Islands) - concerns four girls who caught a shark and killed it. Together they dragged it across a reef and threw it into the sea.	Change in season	Torres Strait Islands	Lawrie 1970:321; Rivers in Haddon 1912(4):219-220, (6):271
Dark patches in the Milky Way	Crow took a paper-bark basket and a wild cat into the Milky Way (river).		North-western Arnhem Land, NT	Warner 1937:533

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Southern Cross and Pointers (<i>Alpha</i> and <i>Beta Centauri</i>)	Friendly crocodile, <i>Yunggalpia</i> , is the Southern Cross, and the Pointers are night birds, <i>Moonaminy</i> and <i>Yikawangga</i> , who make thunder and lightning. The stars are all the people, animals, birds and fish that have died.	Death	Arnhem Land, NT	Maymuru 1978
Southern Cross	The Cross is the foot of <i>Warraguma</i> , an eaglehawk. His foot was hurt by his nephews because he refused to share food hunted by all three of them.	Kinship laws and reciprocity	Ooldea region, SA	Ker Wilson 1977:52–54

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Morning Star (Venus)	<p>After a person dies, his or her spirit is carried over the sea in a spirit-canoe which travels early in the morning along the string of light that comes from <i>Barnambir</i>, the morning star. The spirit goes to an island beyond the sunrise. When the spirit is well-established on the island (<i>Baralku</i>), it sends a message back to earth by the morning star, who in turn relays it on to the relatives in the form of a white bird.</p> <p><i>Barnambir</i>, the morning star, lives in <i>Purelko</i>, the island where the spirits of the dead reside.</p>	<p><i>Barnambir</i> is a shining light held in a mesh bag, tied to the island of <i>Baralku</i> by <i>Jari</i>, the string of light which holds the light down so it never goes high in the sky</p>	<p>North-east Arnhem Land, NT Millingimbi, NT North-western Arnhem Land, NT Djambaringu, NT, Galbu, NT</p>	<p>Berndt 1952:63–64 Warner 1937:524–28 Berndt and Berndt 1977:315–16 Mountford 1976:93–96</p>
The morning star (Venus) and the moon	<p>These represent two brothers, the younger of whom becomes a woman, the morning star.</p>	<p>Origin story</p>	<p>Western Cape York, Qld</p>	<p>Isaacs 1980:148–49</p>
Evening star (Venus) and the moon	<p><i>Gidegal</i>, the moon, helps men with love magic. Songs sung by the men make the evening star twinkle and remind women of their lovers.</p>	<p>Love magic</p>	<p>Lardil, Mornington Island, NT</p>	<p>Isaacs 1980:163–66; Roughsey 1971:82–84</p>

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
<p>Morning star (Venus) and small (undesignated) stars either side or Vega (<i>Alpha Lyrae</i>), Altair (<i>Alpha Aquilae</i>) and the Northern Crown (<i>Corona Borealis</i>)</p>	<p><i>Mullian</i>, an eaglehawk, was a cannibal who hunted humans. Friends of the dead decided to burn him. His charred bones fell out of his nest and he went to live in the sky as <i>Mullian-ga</i>, the morning star. On one side of the morning star is his arm (a small star), the other was burnt off. The other star is his possum-wife, <i>Moodai</i>.</p>	<p>Origin story</p>	<p>New South Wales groups (stars differ with groups, same story and characters)</p>	<p>Isaacs 1980:154; Parker 1953:57–58; Smyth 1972:286</p>
<p>Mars and two (undesignated) star-clusters and a dark patch</p>	<p><i>Waijungari</i> is a newly initiated man, still covered in red ochre from the ceremonies. Two wives of another man (<i>Nepele</i>), seduced <i>Waijungari</i>, <i>Nepele</i> burnt <i>Waijungari</i>'s camp out. <i>Waijungari</i> with the two women on his spear, escaped to the sky, where the women are now stars and <i>Waijungari</i> is the red planet Mars. The dark patch is an emu.</p>		<p>Jaralde (Yaraldi), Lake Alexandrina, SA</p>	<p>Isaacs 1980:154–55; Berndt and Berndt 1993:229–30</p>

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Orion	Three related fishermen in a canoe and their totemically taboo kingfish.	Ecological law	North-east Arnhem Land, NT	Wells 1973:37-44
Shooting stars and the moon	<i>Puggareetya</i> , a woman, used to play tricks on Snake who threw her and the rock she had put him behind, into the sky, where the Sky Spirit kept them. The big rock (<i>Weenah Leah</i>) is the moon and reflects the sun and <i>Puggareetya</i> is a shooting star thrown regularly across the heavens.	Origin story	Plangermairrener, Tasmania	Everett in Noonuccal 1990:115-19
Castor (<i>Alpha Geminorum</i>) and Pollux (<i>Beta Geminorum</i>)	Caterpillars go to the sky-world to look for a cockatoo who has died. They return to the earth as beautiful butterflies.	Metamorphosis and death	Mandalbingu, NT	Rule and Goodman 1979:118-25

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Castor (<i>Alpha Geminorum</i>) and Pollux (<i>Beta Geminorum</i>) and 'the stars above them'	Two men who came down and slept at the base of a hill, threw fire down and then went to the sky as Castor and Pollux. They revived some women who had been killed by a stingray, by placing stingray ants on their breasts. The women are above the men as stars	Origin of fire	Oyster Bay, Tasmania	Roth 1899:84–95
Sunset	Sunset is caused by women fighting amongst themselves after men have tricked them by turning into swans to steal the women's weapons. Blood stains the clouds.	Origin of fan-nel flowers and black swans	Western Australia	Parker 1986:21–29; Ellis 1991:27–30
Dark patches on the moon	The whirlwind carried away a disobedient girl and put her into the moon.		Mowangum, Kimberley, WA	Utemorrhah et al. 1980:48
Sun	Sun is a woman, <i>Mamoura</i> .	Female turtle	Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:481–82
Sun	Sun is a woman, <i>Walo</i> , who goes on an underground path every night.	Origin story	Yirrkala, NT	Mountford 1956:502

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Sun	The kookaburra's call signals the lighting of the stick-fire caused originally by the yolk of an emu egg bursting into flame when an angry brolga had an argument.	Origin story	Groups in NSW and in the Murrumbidgee area, NSW	Roberts and Mountford 1974:16; Parker 1985:1-2
Sun	Sun is a woman.		Mudbara, Victoria River area, NT	Berndt and Berndt 1977:319
Sun	Sun is a woman, <i>Bila</i> , who, having eaten many sky people, came to earth to satisfy her hunger. The lizard-men resisted her and her dogs, and brought the sun under control.	Night and day	South Australian groups	Mountford 1976:85
Sun	Breaking of eggs over a bonfire to create light and warmth.	Origin of sun		Hadley 1983
Sun	Sun is a woman, <i>Gnowee</i> , who lived on earth when it was always dark. Her little boy got lost and now she looks for him always, carrying a bark torch.	Origin story	Wotjobaluk, Victoria	Massola 1968:16, 106
Sun	Smashing of emu's egg which unites with wood.	Origin story	Murray River area, NSW/Vic.	Massola 1968:106

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Sun	Sun is a woman who ran away because her choice of marriage partner was not respected. Ancestor spirits lifted her to the sky where she uses her campfire to warn people below, letting her fire die right down at night.	Origin story Marriage laws	Central Victoria	Ellis 1991:61–63
Sun and moon	The Sun Woman and the Moon Man witnessed the killing of people by a single monolith from the sky, set in motion by a giant goanna from the sky-world.		Lake Macquarie, NSW	Threkeld (1892) in Turbet 1989:126
Moon and Evening Star (Venus)	An ancestral-man, who lived near the claypan of the moonlight, died and his body became a nautilus shell (moon). Venus (the evening star) is a spirit. The lotus flower and the waterlily are symbols of the evening star, held up by the spirit.	Death Lotus and waterlily flowers origin	Millingimbi, NT	Berndt and Berndt 1977:313–14

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon	Moon is a man, <i>Gidja</i> .	Death, menstruation and child-bearing	Koko-Yalunyu, Bloomfield River, Qld	McConnell 1930:350; 1931–32:21
Moon	The moon is a man, <i>Jumauria</i> , his wife and three children are in the 'face' of the moon.	Tides	Groote Eylandt, NT	Mountford 1956:484
Moon	Moon is a man, <i>Alinda</i> .	Death	Millingimbi and Yirrkala, NT	Mountford 1956:488–91; 1958:493–95; 1976a:89–91
Sun and moon	Sun is a woman, and moon is a man, who is also the guardian of the sky-world.		Wiradjeri, NSW	Berndt and Berndt 1977:413
Sun, Moon, Venus, Orion and the Pleiades	Sun is a woman, <i>Alinga</i> , and the moon is a man, <i>Atrinja</i> . Venus, the morning star, is a lone woman, <i>Urigamila</i> . Orion is an emu and the Pleiades are women.	Origin of sun and moon and death	Aranda, NT	Spencer and Gillen 1966:498–99

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Sun and moon	Sun is a woman, <i>Wirinpranala</i> , moon is a man, <i>Japara</i> . <i>Japara</i> killed his wife because she did not prevent their son drowning. <i>Japara</i> searches the sky-world for them both, constantly moving camp. The lines on him are reminders of his scars. <i>Japara</i> also fought with <i>Purukupali</i> , the Great Creator. When <i>Japara</i> re-appears, he proceeds to eat the flesh of mangrove crabs until he becomes full. He gets ill and dies each month. The silvery crescent is his skeleton, and earth shine is his spirit.	Origin of sun, moon (death) and discovery of fire	Tiwi, Bathurst and Melville Islands, NT Arnhem Land, NT	Roberts and Mountford 1974:48, 66, 100; Sims 1978:166–67 Ellis 1991:65–68
Moon	Moon is a man who broke incest (kinship) laws causing death.	Death	Wolmeri and Lunga, Kimberley, WA	Kaberry 1939:199–200
Moon		Overcoming death by returning to one's country	Gadadju, NT	Neidjie et al 1985:57–58

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon	<i>Kalu</i> , a man terrified of the blackness of the night, became pale and round, so obsessed was he by his problem. He became the moon and rests on a boomerang on occasions.	Origin story	Wongyi, WA	Brennan in Noonuccal 1990:147–65
Moon	Moon was an old man, whose nephew resents him because of his insults. The nephew tricks the old man into going up a tree and into the sky.	Origin story	Bagundji, western NSW; Adnjamathanha, SA	Isaacs 1980 145–46
Moon	Moon Man and his sexuality.	Death	Yarralin, Victoria River	Rose 1992:104–5
Sun	The great ancestor-spirit grabbed the red feathers of the firetail bird and flew around so fast that the feathers became bright as they burned, singeing the ancestor-spirit's white cockatoo body.	Origin myth of sun and fire	Pydairrme, Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania	Everett in Noonuccal 1990:137–42

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Sun and Moon	<p>Sun is a 'goddess' in love with moon, 'god', <i>Bahlloo</i>. <i>Bahlloo</i> also takes the form of an emu who creates and protects babies and their mothers.</p> <p><i>Bahlloo</i> loves young women. One night while playing in the river with two young girls, he goes too far and they push him into the river where his light fades. Now he gets into the sky without anyone noticing for he is so thin and pale. He becomes fat and wicked until someone else teaches him a lesson.</p> <p><i>Bahlloo</i> has his dogs which are snakes and he takes them with him when he crosses a stream despite the fear and dislike of Aborigines.</p>	<p>Birth and twins Origin story</p> <p>Death</p>	NSW groups	<p>Reed 1965:130–32; Hadley 1983; Ramsay Smith 1930:69–71; Parker 1953:74–76</p>
Sun	Sun is a woman wandering in search of her lost son	Origin	Kurnai, Victoria	Massola 1968:106
Moon	Moon was <i>Menyan</i> , who endeavoured to make men live forever by giving them a drink of magic water. The plan was frustrated by a bronze-wing pigeon.	Death	Kulin, Victoria	Massola 1968:106

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
The Moon and the Southern Cross	Moon is <i>Narran</i> , a famous hunter forever stalking an emu, the Southern Cross.		Kurnai, Gippsland, Vic.	Massola 1968:106
Sun and Moon	Both are female. Sun Woman camped with the spirits and slept with Red Kangaroo. He gave her a large red cloak which allows her to achieve the redness she needs for heat and warmth. The Moon Woman copulates freely and grows thin from doing so, until she becomes pregnant.	Waxing and waning of moon Pregnancy	Jaralde, SA	Berndt and Berndt 1993:232–33
Moon	Two sisters swam a channel to an island to escape their duties. For food, they caught a fish from the lake but it escaped from off the cooking fire into a tree and up into the sky. It grows smaller when it is eaten.	Origin story		Reed 1965:37–40

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon	The Moon Man helps two brothers. He helps free the younger one from a bees' nest and receives help in return.	Origin story Reciprocity	Princess Charlotte Bay, Qld	Reed 1965:103-5 Roth 1984(5):7
Sun, Moon and Venus	Sun (<i>tiring</i> , meaning 'light') is female and the moon (<i>Meeheearong kaurtaruung</i> , meaning 'hip') is male. Venus is female and is the mother of the sun.	Origin story	Western Victoria	Dawson 1981:99
Sun	The sun is a human ancestor who was misunderstood so he returned in sorrow and became 'a god'.	Origin story	Murrumbidgee River, NSW	Peck 1933:55-65
Moon	A 'bunyip' captured a girl, but the girl's lover came to her rescue. He was able to withstand the power of the bunyip's gaze and with a spear blinded the bunyip. The bunyip eventually died, leaving his one eye in the sky as the moon.	Origin	Murray River area, Victoria/NSW	Peck 1933:65-69

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon	Moon Man (<i>Vira</i>) was trying to punish his nephew for taking his food. He fell backwards off a stick ladder and burst open, leaving marks on his belly. He went to the sky when he was tricked into climbing high up a tree by his nephews.	Marks on the moon Origin story	Adnyamatana, Flinders Ranges	Tunbridge 1988:68–69
Sun, moon and darkness	All things can be divided: things of the sun, things of the moon and things of the night—‘without-light’.	Separation of the three forms	Island of Duaun, Torres Strait (A similar myth exists among the Kiwai Papuans)	Lawrie 1970:132–34
Moon	The moon, <i>Carcurah</i> , fell to earth because he became dizzy. Some say he was pushed back up by the growing grass, others say he sank through the earth and came out the other side. The moon, feeling deserted, cursed the animals, condemning them to a mortal life.	Death	Tully River area, Queensland	Henry 1967:34, 38
Moon	Moon and parrot fish debate mortality.	Death	North-western Arnhem Land, NT	Warner 1937:523–24

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon and Sun(s)	The moon is the husband of the sun(s). At new moon, he is starving and so sets off on a fishing expedition. He is always successful and his belly (at full moon) is gorged. His wife, the suns (there are two), always travelling westwards in search of green ants. The suns are sisters: in the cold season, it is the elder who visits, and in the hot season, it is the younger.	Origin story	Cape Bedford area, Queensland	Roth 1984(5):7
Moon	The earthworm sends moon up into the sky regularly every month to remind people of his skill as a healer (he had, in the past, bored a hole into the diseased part of a turkey ancestor's foot and sucked out the putrid matter, curing him). The moon is a mother of the earthworm and, like him, bores his way out of the ground, rises up on high, sinks once more and dies. As he has plenty of brothers, he sends along a different one every month.	Healing and death	Boulia district, Queensland The Tully River people (Queensland) also believe there is a different moon every month	Roth 1984(5):7

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Night sky phenomena (European)	Aboriginal mythological representation	Association	Aboriginal group or place	Source
Moon and two (undesignated) stars nearby	<p>The moon has two wives. When the moon was about to cook himself some shells, having no tree-bark at hand, he divested himself of his skin and used it instead of bark to wrap up the sheets. But with his skin off, there was no light which angered the bats (his children) who beat him up and threw him into the sea. Now he covers himself with charcoal so he cannot be seen and speared. Only his face is visible which he covers with white pipe-clay.</p>	Name for pipe-clay (<i>aro-a</i>) is the name given to the moon	Pennefather River area, Queensland	Roth 1984(5):7

Appendix 2: The 88 Constellations

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Andromeda	Andromedae	Andromeda		
Antlia	Antliae	Air Pump		
Apus	Apodis	Bird of Paradise or Bee		
Aquarius	Aquarii	Water Carrier		
Aquila	Aquilae	Eagle	Altair	0.8
Ara	Arae	Altar		
Aries	Arietis	Ram		
Auriga	Aurigae	Charioteer	Capella (multiple star)	0.1
Boötes	Boötis	Bear Driver or Herdsman	Arcturus	-0.1
Caelum	Caeli	Graving Tool		
Camelopardalis	Camelopardalis	Giraffe		

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Cancer	Cancri	Crab		
Canes Venatici	Canum Venaticorum	Hunting Dogs		
Canis Major	Canis Majoris	Larger Dog	Sirius (multiple star)	-1.5
Canis Minor	Canis Minoris	Smaller Dog	Procyon (multiple star)	0.3
Capricornus	Capricorni	Sea Goat		
Carina	Carinae	Keel	Canopus	-0.7
Cassiopeia	Cassiopeiae	Cassiopeia		
Centaurus	Centauri	Centaur	Alpha and Beta Centauri (multiple stars)	-0.3, 0.6
Cepheus	Cephei	Cepheus		
Cetus	Ceti	Whale		
Chamaeleon	Chamaeleontis	Chameleon		
Circinus	Circini	Compasses		

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Columba	Columbae	Dove		
Coma Berenices	Comae Berenices	Berenice's Hair		
Corona Australis	Coronae Australis	Southern Crown		
Corona Borealis	Coronae Borealis	Northern Crown		
Corvus	Corvi	Crow		
Crater	Crateris	Cup		
Crux Australis	Crucis	Southern Cross	Acrux, Beta Crucis	0.9, 1.3
Cygnus	Cygni	Swan	Deneb	1.3
Delphinus	Delphini	Dolphin		
Dorado	Doradus	Goldfish or Swordfish		
Draco	Draconis	Dragon		
Equuleus	Equulei	Little Horse		
Eridanus	Eridani	River	Achernar	0.5
Fornax	Fornacis	Furnace		

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Gemini	Geminorum	Twins	Pollux and Castor	1.2, 1.6
Grus	Grus	Crane		
Hercules	Herculis	Hercules		
Horologium	Horologii	Clock		
Hydra	Hydrae	Water Snake		
Hydrus	Hydri	Sea Serpent		
Indus	Indi	Indian		
Lacerta	Lacertae	Lizard		
Leo	Leonis	Lion	Regulus (multiple star)	1.3
Leo Minor	Leonis Minoris	Smaller Lion		
Lepus	Leporis	Hare		
Libra	Librae	Scales		
Lupus	Lupi	Wolf		

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Lynx	Lyncis	Lynx		
Lyra	Lyrae	Lyre	Vega	0.0
Mensa	Mensae	Table (Mountain)		
Microscopium	Microscopii	Microscope		
Monoceros	Monocerotis	Unicorn		
Musca	Muscae	Fly		
Norma	Normae	Level		
Octans	Octantis	Octant		
Ophiuchus	Ophiuchi	Serpent-Bearer		
Orion	Orionis	Orion	Rigel, Betelgeuse, Bellatrix (multiple and variable stars)	0.1, 0.8, 1.6
Pavo	Pavonis	Peacock		
Pegasus	Pegasi	Pegasus, the Flying Horse		

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Perseus	Persei	Perseus		
Phoenix	Phoenicis	Phoenix		
Pictor	Pictoris	Easel or Painter		
Pisces	Piscium	Fishes		
Piscis Austrinus	Piscis Austrini	Southern Fish	Formalhaut	1.2
Puppis	Puppis	Stern or Poop		
Pyxis	Pyxidis	Mariner's Compass		
Reticulum	Reticuli	Net		
Sagitta	Sagittae	Arrow		
Sagittarius	Sagittarii	Archer		
Scorpius	Scorpii	Scorpion	Antares (multiple and variable stars)	1.0
Sculptor	Sculptoris	Sculptor		
Scutum	Scuti	Shield		

Latin Name	Genitive	English Name	Brightest Stars (mentioned in the text)	Apparent Magnitude
Serpens	Serpentis	Serpent		
Sextans	Sextantis	Sextant		
Taurus	Tauri	Bull	Aldebaran (multiple star)	0.8
Telescopium	Telescopii	Telescope		
Triangulum	Trianguli	Triangle		
Triangulum Australe	Trianguli Australis	Southern Triangle		
Tucana	Tucanae	Toucan		
Ursa Major	Ursae Majoris	Great Bear		
Ursa Minor	Ursae Minoris	Little Bear		
Vela	Velorum	Sails		
Virgo	Virginis	Virgin	Spica (variable star)	1.0
Volans	Volantis	Flying Fish		
Vulpecula	Vulpeculae	Fox		

Appendix 3: Star Magnitudes

Magnitude is concerned with a star's apparent brightness, not its real luminosity. The scale works so that the more brilliant the star, the lower its magnitude. Thus the very bright stars are of magnitude 1, magnitude 2 is fainter, magnitude 3 is fainter still. Stars below magnitude 6 are usually invisible to the naked eye even on a very dark night. The measurements of magnitude have been devised according to a logarithmic scale. Thus a star of magnitude 1.0 is exactly a hundred times as bright as a star of magnitude 6.0.

Magnitudes, starting from zero, are roughly as follows:

- 0: Extremely bright stars such as Capella in Auriga and Vega in Lyra.
- 1: Very bright stars standing out against their neighbours. Conventionally, any star brighter than magnitude 1.5 is said to be 'first magnitude'. There are only 21 of them.
- 2: Moderately bright stars.
- 3: Fainter stars able to be seen in conditions of moonlight or mist.
- 4: Very faint stars that can be concealed by moonlight.
- 5: Stars too faint to be seen unless the sky is dark and clear.
- 6: Faintest stars visible with the naked eye only under extremely good viewing conditions.

Venus, the morning and evening star, and the most brilliant of the planets have a magnitude of -4. There are only four stars with magnitudes below zero: Sirius (-1.4), Canopus (-0.7), Alpha Centauri (-0.3) and Arcturus (-0.4). On this scale, the Sun's magnitude is almost -27.

Appendix 4: Australian Aboriginal Groups and Communities mentioned in the text¹

Adnyamatana	SA
Alawa	NT
Andagarinja	SA
Anmatjara	NT
Anula	NT
Arabana	SA
Aranda	NT
Bagundji	NSW
Bibbulmun	WA
Booandik	SA
Boorong	Vic
Dharamba	NSW
Dieri	NT
Djambarbingu	NT
Djara	WA
Djauan	NT
Gagadju	NT
Galbu	NT
Gullibul	NSW
Gundungurra	NSW
Gunwinggu	NT

¹ There are many alternate spellings throughout the literature

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Jajauring	NSW
Jaralde (Yaraldi)	SA
Jupagalk	NSW
Kamilaroi	NSW
Karadjeri	WA
Karruru	SA
Koko-yalunyu	Qld
Kukatja (Gugadja)	WA
Kulin	Vic
Kurnai	Vic
Kuurn kopan noot	Vic
Kwadju	Qld
Kwaimbal	NSW
Lardil	NT
Lunga	WA
Luritja (Loritja)	NT
Mandalbingu	NT
Mara	Vic
Meenamatta	SA
Meriam	Qld
Moil	NT
Moporr	Vic
Mowanjum	WA
Mudbara	NT
Mukjarawaint	Vic

Murinbata	NT
Needwonee	Tas
Ngadadjara	WA
Ngadjuri	SA
Ngalia	NT
Ngeumba	NSW
Ngulugwongga	NT
Njangomada	WA
Nyoongah	WA
Nyulnyul	WA
Pilbara	WA
Pintupi (Pintubi)	NT
Pirt kopan noot	Vic
Pitjantjatjara	NT/SA
Plangermairrener	Tas
Pydurrerme	Tas
Tiwi	NT
Wailwun	NSW
Walbiri	NT
Wandandia	NSW
Wiilman	WA
Wolmeri	WA
Wongaibon	NSW
Wongyr	WA
Wotjabaluk	Vic

Night Skies of Aboriginal Australia

Wumbaio	NSW
Wuradjeri	NSW
Ya itma thang	Vic
Yaoro	WA
Yarra	Vic
Yarralin	NT
Yolngu	NT
Yualarai	NSW