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## Plainspeak

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# Plainspeak

by Dixon Hearne

Flat and undulating  
wind-swept plains  
drift in ecru tones—  
steppe and grassland—  
flowing westward,  
river to butte.

The land still rings with  
native voices, restless souls that  
trailed the buffalo,  
culled the herds,  
carved its heart into  
tribal homes—  
Apache, Crow, Lakota.

From timid trails to  
rutted tracks that  
scar and scab  
the sacred earth,  
encroachers roused the  
sands and dust of  
tireless, endless time.

