Old Rubbish

Andrew Burke
Old rubbish

Leaf litter
fallen twigs branches even
first radiating stars of flowers
from these eucalypts
planted six years ago

on this century old hill of rubbish
landfill swamp fill trash
dumped than piled onto trash
four football fields long
and half one high

shrill with rocketing parrots
silent as the stalking egret
welcoming as these curious ducks
elegant with the black majesty of swans
cautious as I am in my kayak

nudging its new skirt
of swamp grass
and the trees
rooted in rubbish and bearing
such a prodigal rebirth!

Andrew Taylor