All Devotion

1.

In these lateral & sinker roots, buttresses, crown of leaves & branches, devotion is close. These tree-parts live as rhizomes of reciprocity:

contiguous, all entwined in seasonal rhythms, now spacious, now depthless, now primordial. This gathered wood resonates old

stories of long-gone trees, ones still-present; stories of inner work unloosed to other native flora, stands of eucalypts.

2.

Under skies of no promise, an ancient gum tree, its trunk ten life spans thick buttresses a Dawson Street, Lismore footpath. Through

the tsunami of sorrows, a three-seater red lounge snags on the branch junction four metres above Widjabul/Wia-bul Country. Cushions torn, lop-

sided, seat flood-mud-smeared, the tree & sofa become companions & await the gathered communities keen for the miraculous, wild in our hearts.

Peter Mitchell