

Reflections on the 'top end'...

The eucalypts have now
Wrapped their trunks
in 'woolie' bark
To protect them
from the fires
that burn in the dry..



Through Kakadu
The never ending
Savanna grasslands
Hiding creatures
Who come out at night
Or scurry away
Without being seen.
And hidden inland
The Yellow Waters
wetlands



The stories of a
culture so old
It can't be counted.
The way the land was used
Not abused.
Of baskets made
From the pandanas



Fishnets too,
Strung across the creeks
To catch dinner
Of 'barra' or turtle.



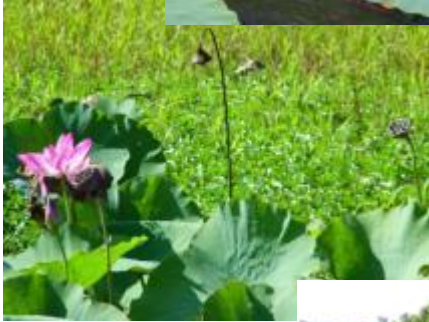
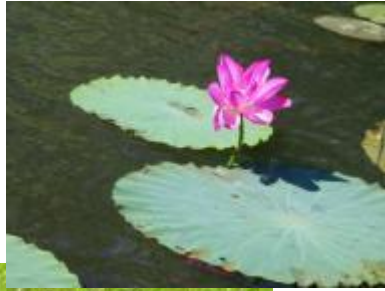
The quiet crocs
Lurking,
Sunning themselves
Cooling their brain
Warming their body.
Many more cannot be seen
Under the water.



The birds are plentiful
For it is time to nest
And raise young
Before the wet...
The Jabiru stalks its prey
While others watch and wait



The lotus
 Its dinner plate leaves
 Flapping in the breeze
 Its shower head seedpods
 For all to see
 As we pass



A different river
 But the same..
 Mary River this time
 A peaceful cruise
 The 'driver' and me
 Listening and watching
 For wildlife
 Above and below
 The river..



Termite mounds
 On quieter roads
 Are measured by Ulysses



Down the highway
 To Humpty Do
 And on to
 Litchfield National Park.
 More savannah, ferns and pandanas
 Waterfalls a plenty
 And special termite mounds
 Which line up
 From north to south
 Their way
 Of temperature control
 As they stand like an army
 Ready for battle



'Magnetic' Termite mounds
 line up north-south...



Wangi Falls
 Florence Falls
 Tolmer Falls



But the best part
 Is walking through
 Quiet glades
 Beside the streams
 Catching the wildlife



Watching me
As I watch them



I walk up
And soon am drenched
But elated



Because I have done
Easily
What I thought
Might be hard!
I have drunk
Litre after litre
Of warm water
And it drains out
All over my skin

The Tabletop swamp
Is nearly dry
The 'wet' is close
And will replenish
The waters
Geckos scurry
As I walk
Too fast for camera
And me!
Not so the fringed
Yellow flowers!
Berry Springs
Is next..
Soon to Darwin
A hair cut, car service
And shop!!!!

The top of
Wangi falls
And the
view...

