Rosemary Dobson Prize
Short-list: Jerri Kroll (SA) – ‘Vanishing Point’.

**Vanishing Point**
An Anorexic Testifies

Rare as snow in the hills,
I drift past and you gaze at my lightness and grace.
You glimpse the world through me.
Filter and sieve, I refine.
I am mercury, the first matter,
transmuting base flesh to gold,
the purest grams.

*Rarefy* is a word I found
that distils my heart.
I love what I am
now I am what I love –
nothing but the essential
free of impurities.

Bones hold up a silken tent of skin
dusted with down.
My eyes are frosty skies.
That’s all the description you need,
chapter and verse.

Nothing more to add to my story,
compressed to a point
that is its own meaning,
a hole in the ice
into which I can vanish.

Safe on the shore in the cleansing wind,
admire me as the temperature drops.
Now do you see the perfection of zero?
Every time you shiver,
remember me.