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## Toby's Sonnet

Mary MacGowan

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# Toby's Sonnet

by Mary MacGowan

Toby's leg jerks as she sleeps by the fire.  
Chasing or being chased, she's breathing hard,  
a good dream for a dog who seldom leaves her yard.  
Sometimes the measure of the days conspire  
against a little dog who needs to run.  
Still, the fire we gaze at has a pattern  
too complex for us humans to discern,  
placed here on the third planet from the sun.  
Toby watches us coming and going,  
hears things no worthy watchdog can ignore,  
barks with all her heart when a stranger's at the door.  
But now we're all home, the wood is glowing;  
this is the best time for a dog to doze.  
Even our dreams sleep, and the front door's closed.



*Photo by J. Stoffers*

