



So the dogs are loose  
and skid across the yard  
in panicky freedom.  
They think everything  
outside is better  
and maybe it is,  
but dogs are  
students of doorways.  
A moment  
is an opening  
is a chance.  
They're out.

**LOOSE**



It's a good thing  
robins visit  
only by chance,  
since they lose  
everyone's address  
saying all lawns look alike  
once crowded  
with worms.

**GPS ROBINS**



She named him Barron  
for his crystalline crown feathers  
and royal demands.  
He owns a perch  
and every inch of living space  
they have.  
When Russel takes a shower  
Barron sings with him  
from the curtain rod.  
The spray reminds him  
of tropical rainfall  
which is just  
ancestral memory  
now.

**DONNA'S COCKATOO**

She reminds me that today  
is a special day and dawn  
is the best time to begin.  
Her soft-paws pussfoot  
the high-rise bookcase  
and swipe everything  
onto the careful carpet  
where they mumble quiet thuds.  
You are 14 years eager today  
and wake me, make me  
fill your bowl so precisely -  
as I always, always do.  
So this day is every day,  
since every day is the  
same day to you, Teacup.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TEACUP**

**PET FRIENDLY POETRY**

*Please recycle to a friend.*

ORIGAMIPOEMS.COM  
or email:  
origamipoems@gmail.com

**Origami Poems Project**  
**PET FRIENDLY POETRY**

by Jan Keough  
© 2009



5 origami poems  
by  
**JAN KEOUGH**



**I LOVE (MY) DOGS**

Love is strange medicine.  
It cures chronic slip-ups,  
mortal insensitivity,  
a disappointing exam,  
or heartache  
poised in a glance.

But my dogs know this,  
so they atone.  
For every no,  
they watch for yes.  
For a forgotten caress,  
they remind me with kisses.

For time stretched  
by carelessness,  
they jump and bark  
until the stars shake.

A thousand minutes  
or one long, slow breath  
is too long to be away.  
They miss me  
like water for sky  
and other elements  
that house us in love.