

## THE CHILD AND THE PUPPY

They need to learn, the child and the pup,  
and should be taught as they are growing up.  
No jumping up, no pawing with sharp nails.  
No pulling ears or whiskers, worse yet, tails.  
Those needle teeth are not allowed to nip.  
No smearing lipstick on a puppy lip.  
No growling to protect a favored bone,  
and when a dog's asleep, leave it alone.  
It's "no" to gnawing socks and chewing shoes,  
and both must learn to share the toys they choose.

It seems as if they never will get schooled,  
their manners lacking as they find their way,  
but then they clearly prove we have been fooled,  
our doubts about their training overruled  
by best behaviors one diploma day  
when child and puppy learn at last to play.

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