

## DEFENSING

“My dog is friendly,” they all say,  
but having twice survived attack  
no longer do I turn my back  
whenever strange dogs walk my way.

“My dog is friendly,” they all cry.  
“Well, mine is NOT,” I now reply,  
then stage some fake aggressiveness  
to demonstrate unfriendliness.

Though it is wholly insincere  
the sight of it makes us appear  
as if we were a pair to fear.  
Outside, my face displays a scowl;  
sometimes my dog will even growl,  
while inside we grin ear to ear.

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