

DOG SECRETS

There were two things he said he'd teach.
The first is dogs know what we say.
They understand our human speech—
for centuries it's been that way.

I know he's telling me a fact.
The truth is that his voice comes through
inside my head, and I speak back
by answering in brain waves, too.

The dogs have kept their skill secure
so that we never found it out,
and to this day we're never sure
if they know what we talk about.

The second secret he revealed
is dogs are training covertly.
Throughout the world they keep concealed
the fact they're studying a tree.

And why would dogs do such a thing?
I hoped to find out through our chat.
What would they be accomplishing?
Research a tree? What good is that?

Without a sound he spoke to me.
He telepathed his thoughts, then winked:
*The day dogs learn to climb a tree
is when the squirrels go extinct.*

by Lee Netzer