

NIGHT WATCHERS

Perhaps you've noticed something strange
that's taking place when sun has set.
As darkness falls, it signals change
that night time dogs may be a threat.

In daylight they can all be seen
in well-behaved societies,
avoiding getting caught between
praiseworthy deeds and felonies.

But once night falls the dark obscures
activities that we might see
when they are tempted by the lures
of doing deeds in secrecy.

We shiver at their repertoire
of haunting howl and daunting bark,
and fail to give them credit for
their noble guarding in the dark.

I'm heartened by the evidence
from positive reports we've had.
Their night watch duty gives us sense
they've done a lot more good than bad.

by Lee Netzler