

Dog Park Rules (A Villanelle)

Watch out for balls and feel the winter sun.
Remember who you came with, when you came.
Run and run and don't forget to run.

The most important rule is to have fun.
Smell all the smells, then smell them all again.
Watch out for balls and feel the spring time sun.

Spin your body, spin and when you've spun
yourself into a puddle, change the game.
Run and run and don't forget to run.

Sniff the spots that human noses shun
Pee and pee and all good places claim.
Watch out for balls and feel the autumn sun.

Stay with that stick until the chewing's done.
Leap and wiggle your small body like a flame.
Run and run and don't forget to run.

And now the Dog Park rules are almost done,
and you will learn them as you learned your name.
Watch out for balls and feel the summer sun.
Run and run and don't forget to run.

Jennifer Swanton Brown
Cupertino Poet Laureate
for April 3, 2014
Mary Avenue Dog Park Dedication