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## The Squirrel

Glen E. Robertson

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# *The Squirrel*

GLEN E. ROBERTSON\*

A squirrel chirped like a bird  
On my front porch, and my dog,  
White and beautiful, stood at attention.  
I moved the cardboard box

And ached to see the tailless squirrel  
Chirp a brave warning to the dog.  
My Samoyed I suddenly didn't know  
With lips drawn back like rubber bands

And fastened there, and depthless  
Black eyes focused like death  
On a neighbor boy's lost pet  
Which bravely stood to meet the test.

The moment froze on fear and hatred  
And froze in my mind helpless,  
And afterward the few small stains  
Of blood I might have wept myself.

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\*Mr. Robertson is an instructor in English at College of the Sequoias in California.