

**Linda Allan**

## **The Dog Days of Summer**

High tide will be here soon  
Through the trees I glimpse a sparkling blue invitation.  
Togs? Towel? Water? Snacks? Sunblock? Hat?  
Check, check, check and check  
Dog? check! And heck yes  
We Set out for the end of the road.

Dog dances with anticipation as we arrive  
Excited dog races up and down the sand  
While his mum sets up and relaxes in a comfy spot  
Secure the dog and wade out into the warm welcoming water.  
On the shore a little dog waits  
On the shore a little dog watches  
I Relax into the water and float away

On the shore a little dog shouts  
Mum,mum,mum,mum,mum he barks  
Trying to relax here dog, hush  
Mum,mum,mum,mum,mum,MUM!  
Dog, you are harshing my zen  
Mum,mum,mum,mum,mum,MUM!  
Ommm, try to ignore frantic yipping and relax, ommmm

Yipping ceases, deep sigh of relief  
faint sound of splashing getting gradually louder  
Open one eye, glance shoreward  
Determined dog swimming towards me.  
Coming to rescue you mum.  
Trailing the rope he was tied with  
Determined dog Swims around, wraps me with rope  
C'mon mum out of this dangerous water  
Determined dog heads for shore

Mum follows obediently  
Resigned but heartwarmed  
I step ashore  
small dog relaxes, shakes vigorously and smiles broadly  
Safe now  
A round of water and snacks for all  
A little light stick throwing,  
A little drying in the sun, until.  
It's time to go home doggo

Dog eyes say, I had a great time thanks mum  
Tomorrow? the dog asks, tomorrow! mum smiles back.