

*Forward*

Labrador retrievers are silly pets,  
They will make you laugh; they will get you wet.  
They wag their tails; they love to play.  
A Labrador retriever will make your day.

*Bear's Hospital Adventure*

Once upon a sunny day,  
A Labrador, Bear, made his way  
Over the hill and across the street  
Nose to the ground, searching for treats.  
  
He followed a butterfly and barked at a bee.  
He pranced through puddles with glee.  
He said hello to a fat tabby cat.  
He made friends with a boy named Matt.

After a while, he needed a rest.

A big cool building said, Be our guest.

Bear sat by the door and *Kalamazoo*,

Doors opened like magic, too good to be true.

Past the lobby, Bear zipped by,

Down the hallway, my, oh my!

A nearby nurse shouted with worry,

“A dog's in here, call security, hurry!”

A hospital, a hospital, is no place where

A dog should be, not even Bear!

The doctor's, the nurses, the lab technician

Chased Bear down the hall and into the kitchen.

Whereupon the counter sat a cake.

Right on the edge, free for the take.

Buttery smell laced with pink icing,

Sweet and delicious, oh so enticing.

Bear jumped up and helped himself,  
Front paws up on the kitchen shelf.  
Icing covered all of his nose,  
Tail wagging, tongue licking, quite a pose!

Slipping a rope around Bear's neck.  
Joe, the guard said, "What the heck!"  
He grabbed a plate for himself and one for the beast,  
And walked Bear outside to enjoy their feast.

Usually, his days were boring and lonely,  
But with Bear by his side, he wasn't the only  
Guard that day, walking around  
Keeping things safe, watching the grounds.

A patient named Nate waved to Joe,  
"Hello Nate, what do you know?"  
"I'm going home today," Nate said.  
Nate gave Bear a pat on the head.

Bear barked in response and did a jig.

“Is that your dog, he’s really big?”

“No, Nate, he’s visiting just like you,

His owner is picking him up at two.”

When Bear’s owner arrived to pick him up,

She said, “Thanks so much for watching my pup.”

Joe looked at the ground and then at his shoes,

“No, ma’am I *must* thank you.

If you don't mind ma’am, I truly do say

That walking with Bear sure made my day.”