



Green Anole

We designed the yard as a room in our house,
And invited in boarders including a mouse,
We have native plants and flowers galore,
And dirt and leaves comprise the floor.

Among the first critters to appear on the scene
Was a beautiful lizard which was strikingly green,
And it would find a spot on a barest limb,
And assume a pose like singing a hymn.

But rather than sound, a reddish sack appeared,
It was as if he had grown a long, pink-red beard,
And he'd strike a pose like wanting a kiss,
And blow up his sack in apparent bliss.

Now this pink-red sack is known as a dewlap,
And it signals this lizard is a feisty chap,
He's defending territory and looking for a date,
It's no one-nighter – he's searching for a mate.

And oh, how we love our garden's dragon,
I can hear Garland call as she pulls her wagon,
"Come quick Jim, come see, this pretty green one,"
And it makes our day as he poses in the sun.

Our green anole needs a righteous crusader,
To mount a defense to a Cuban invader,
For the brown anole is a nasty competitor,
What we really need is an ecological leveler.

So, our garden's green dragon is having a hard time,
And I long to see it on a branch it can climb,
And show us some pink while basking in the sun,
And find a way to have daughters and sons.

And when I sit at my office in the garden,
I get an attitude I hope you will pardon,
For I want the browns to be whisked away,
And for the green anole to come back to stay.

So welcome to Earth church
Pull yourself up a pew
Say a prayer that the green anole
Will survive for you.