

**evening things up**

**Geraldine Burrowes**

the dog can't bear  
the wait  
every hooped ball  
dribbles along the rim of the roller  
before it drops

the child strings petals on shoe  
lace coded letters

city tram ultimatum  
university or beach

vermillion blockbusters berries  
the green simply crescents  
the weekend dad swoops  
his son from the other swing-swing

it turns out to be beer  
cans bowled in the curve of a palm frond  
strapping leaves compete weeping she-oaks the space  
he was thinking of texting a girl for a date  
his kid won't ask to bring a mate