

A Selection of Poems

by Janet Jenkins-Stottos

Bandit

Small black head follows

My line through the water.

Damn turtle ate my bait.

Fishing

Drop my wormed hook in

Shallow water; the result

Is quick but small. Throw

It back and catch another,

Repeat. Fish are slow learners

Reviver Tanka

No flat petunias

No wilted begonias

Small shower brings life,

Temporary rest for the

Leaking hose, my wet shoes

Evolution

Awkward teen goslings

Look just like miniature

Tyrannosaurus Rex

Rescued Dog

A thin piercing howl,

Remembered hopelessness

I wake him gently.

Storms

Line of thunderstorms

Red and green on weather's map

Come back, you missed us.

Yesterday, rain was

Forecast. It didn't rain at all

At my house. Today,

No rain was forecast; it poured.

Welcome, my friends, to Kansas.

Orange wheel barrow

Rusty but sturdy enough

To haul yellow mums.

Begonias bloom

Bright yellow, white and crimson.

Now, mums are added.

Tiny wood violets

Spring's most beautiful flower

I trampled underfoot.

Janet Jenkins-Stotts is a late blooming author of both poetry and prose. She published her first novel *The Orchid Garden* in 2015. Besides her interest in traditional forms of poetry, Ms. Stotts is also known as Topeka's Oldest Slam Poet when she performs at various Open Mics and local slam contests. She hopes to have a chapbook out before the end of the year. Jenkins-Stotts lives in Topeka, Kansas with her husband, Stan, and Romeo, their miniature pincher.