

## Three Garden Visitors

Beside a cup of tea, I am a spotted leopard on pajamas.  
Outside in the garden, this early summer morning,  
Staying sly, quiet, not wanting to draw any attention from the neighbors.

A birdie is hidden in the Emerald Green Arborvitae,  
After lunch, Owen comes over, asking politely if he can come into the yard to find it.  
I reply, "Certainly, you can retrieve anything that lands in the yard without asking".

Coming unannounced, no matter when, full of presumption  
It comes with the lightest, gentle touch or the hardest hit, knocking flowers off center.  
Below the fine roots rejoice or weep.

Vivien Russe