

Attempt

by [Jeanne Murray Walker](#) in the [December 25, 2013](#) issue

*Be present with your want of a Deity  
and you shall be present with the Deity.*

Thomas Traherne

Sometimes I lose you. Say you are a puppy  
and I've left the door ajar. Or I'm due someplace  
and can't remember where. In my sticky-uppy  
hair and ripped work shirt, I ransack the place  
to find my datebook. Gone. Or I've dropped  
my glasses and I'm crawling on all fours  
to swab the floor with outstretched hands. I mop  
blindly, my heart stuttering with fear.

Don't tell me you are not a puppy. I know.  
You're not some destination. But I want to  
tell you what it's like to hunt, although  
the words are clumsy. Vapor.

What it comes to:

You are the sky, the boat, the oars, the water.  
You are the soul that longs to row and you're the rower.