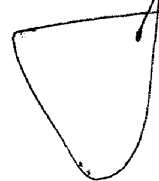


1. Today's for Irene the birthday  
She was born once in August this day.  
So we celebrate,  
Now isn't that great,  
She gave us a reason today.
2. She lives in a house made of logs  
Which threatened to sink in the bogs;  
Some logs had gotten  
So very much rotten  
They made a nice entrance for dogs.
3. She said "Oh, I fear a slight breeze  
Could blow us away with great ease;  
I could lose Travis  
And all I would have is  
The thought of how great was my sneeze."
4. Said he "This could cause us some strife;  
I'll not be blown away by my wife !  
Let us not stall,  
There's a hole in the wall,  
And I hope it won't have a long life."
5. Then out of the night that was dark  
There came a great frightening bark;  
And a deep voice said "Oh,  
I think that I'll go  
Thru the hole in the wall for a lark."
6. And then thru the holes in the logs  
Came raccoons and chipmunks and dogs  
And seagulls and sparrows  
And crows with wheelbarrows  
And something that sounded like hogs.
7. And so in the house of antique  
Our Irene responded with "Eek!  
I declare this a war,  
And now I shall roar,  
The time is long past to be meek."
8. At last there came up from the creek  
A fellow to fix the big leak.  
Said he "Bless my soul,  
That's a mighty big hole,  
It might take me more than a week."
9. He brought in new stems of tree  
To bring back the old symmetry  
These shiny new logs  
Will keep out the fogs  
Now isn't that fine carpentry?
10. So now they're all cozy once more  
In this cabin two blocks from the store;  
And they sit here inside,  
No more terrified,  
For the only way in is the door.

 Jim MacFarlane  
August 1982