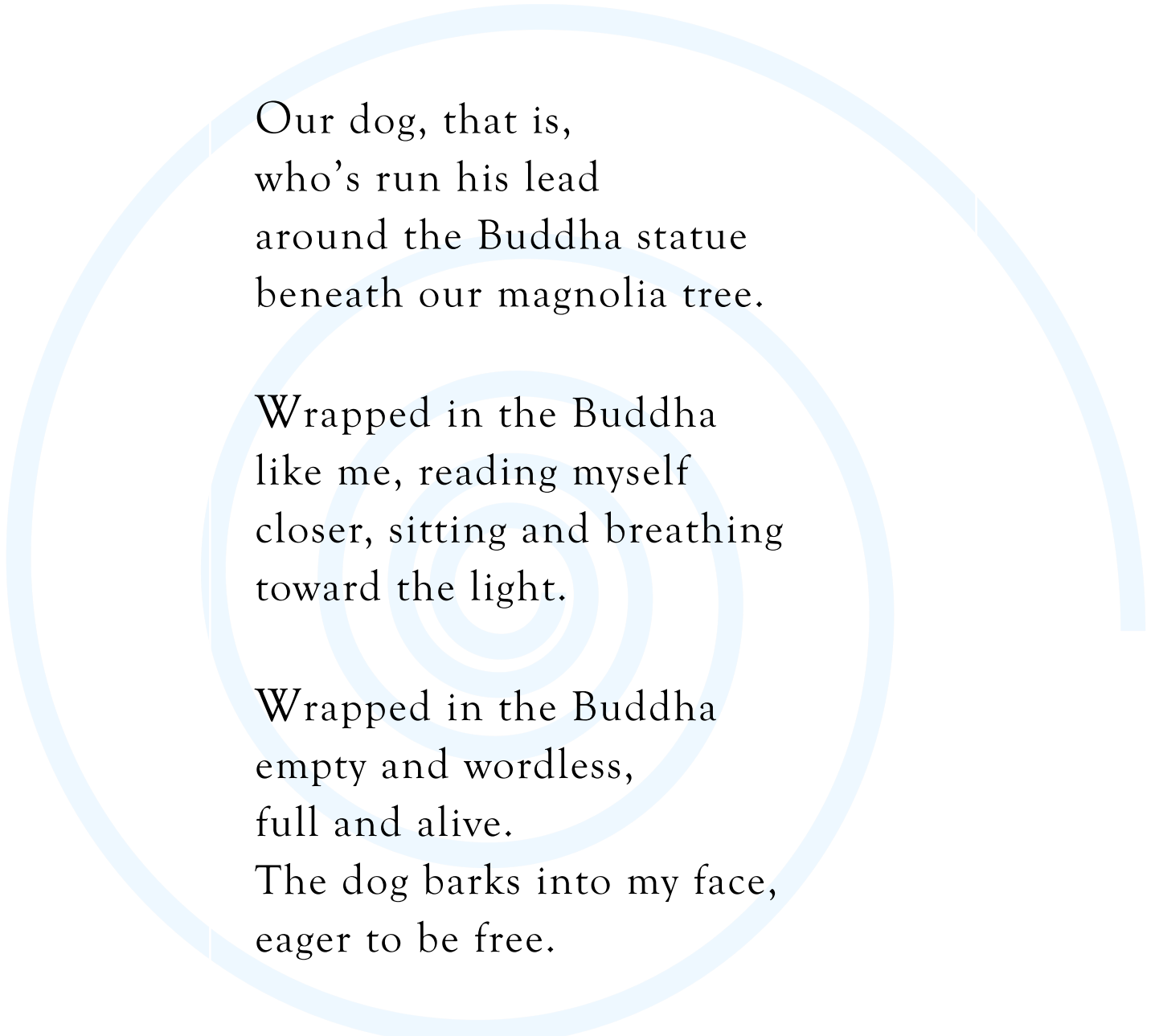


# Wrapped in the Buddha



Our dog, that is,  
who's run his lead  
around the Buddha statue  
beneath our magnolia tree.

Wrapped in the Buddha  
like me, reading myself  
closer, sitting and breathing  
toward the light.

Wrapped in the Buddha  
empty and wordless,  
full and alive.  
The dog barks into my face,  
eager to be free.