

Rule of Threes

I tend to read books three at a time surrounded
by a trio of dogs as agreeable to me
as a ternion of adjectives before a noun.

Aristotle believed in three unities for plays
all set in one place, no longer than a day,
without subplots, or flashbacks.

I need this sort of frame.
Curios offer more pleasure
in triads. Three repetitions renders things true.

We progress from incident, to coincident,
to pattern. I arrange a cord of wood between a triangle
of stalwart evergreens and consider the men I've loved,

believe the third offers something of a knotty twist.
Like a triptych, I could display this fact openly
or fold it shut.

SANDRA LLOYD