

THE FAMILY MYSTERY

By Dean Atta

Uncle Dean, sing!
Uncle Dean, dance!
Requests Arinna

Whizzing round the room
Fizz-footing and low-looping
Between the legs of adults

She is holding a doll
of Poppy from the movie Trolls
that sings “Get Back Up Again”

Her sister Andia is almost
Crawling, holding herself
Up on hands and knees

She is jiggling back and forth
With a green teething toy
Clamped between her gums

They are both wearing white
Dresses with black dots
Like two frilly Dalmatians

Matching outfits in different sizes
Bought by grandma, my mum
Who loves to shop for clothes

Sniff sniff, accuses grandma
Sniff sniff, investigates mum
My sister, who checks to see

Who needs their nappy
Changed and I don't confess
That I have farted.



POEMS