

The Cold Within

By James Patrick Kinney

Six humans trapped by happenstance
In bleak and bitter cold
Each one possessed a stick of wood,
Or so the story's told.

Their dying fire in need of logs,
The first man held his back
For of the faces round the fire
He noticed one was black.

The next man looking 'cross the way
Saw one not of his church,
And couldn't bring himself to give
The fire his stick of birch.




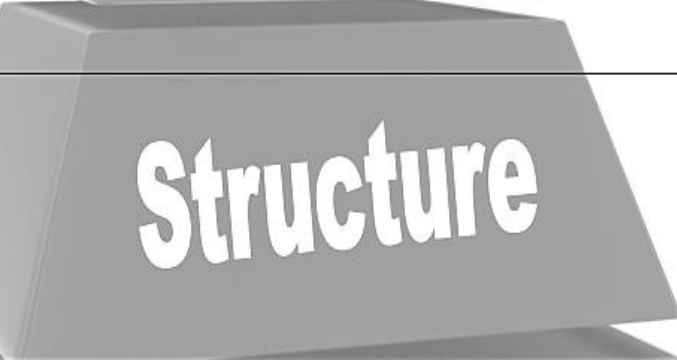
The third one sat in tattered clothes
He gave his coat a hitch.
Why should his log be put to use
To warm the idle rich?

The rich man just sat back and thought
Of the wealth he had in store
And how to keep what he had earned
From the lazy, shiftless poor.

The black man's face bespoke revenge
As the fire passed from his sight
For all he saw in his stick of wood
Was a chance to spite the white.

The last man of this forlorn group
Did naught except for gain.
Giving only to those who gave
Was how he played the game.

Their logs held tight in death's still hands
Was proof of human sin.
They didn't die from the cold without.
They died from the cold within.

Title	Analysis Pyramid
<p>Words and Phrases</p> <p>What words and phrases play an important role in communicating the Author's message?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Author uses words like... because....• Words like... and ...represent the text because...• These words ad to the text by...	
<p>Tone or Language</p> <p>What is the feeling or attitude communicated through the poem? What language is used to create this feeling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The overall tone of the text is• I know this because• The author probably chose to use that tone because...	
<p>Craft Elements</p> <p>What craft elements do you notice that play a role in the author's purpose (figurative language and sound devices)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The author uses... because...• These elements help the reader understand...	
<p>Structure</p> <p>What structural elements do you notice? (Stanzas, Rhyme Scheme) How are the ideas organized throughout the poem?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The author organizes the text by...• I know this because ...• The author probably organized the text this way because...	
<p>Theme</p> <p>What is the author's message about life that he/she is sending the audience through this poem?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The theme of the poem is...• I know this because...• The author probably chose to express this theme because...	