

# Scrooge - Summarised

## Stave 1

| POINT                                    | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS   |
|--|---|
| Ostracised (isolated from society)       | <p>The <b>conceit</b> (extended- metaphor) of the relentless cold holds <b>parallels</b> to Scrooge's distant and cold attitude.</p> <p><b><u>"the cold within him froze his old features"</u></b>, reinforcing his <b>internal apathy and detachment</b> is so <b>omnipotent</b>, it alters his physical appearance</p> <p>He is <b>repulsed</b> by human interaction and affection as he warns <b><u>"all human sympathy to keep its distance"</u></b>.</p>   |
| Emblem (symbol) of Victorian upper class | <p>Scrooge as an <b>archetypal villain</b> (someone who is seen as evil, typically self-centred and power hungry) in the context of an <b>impoverished</b> (poor) society.</p> <p>The <b>asyndetic listing</b> (a list that uses commas rather than the word 'and') of <b><u>"squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner"</u></b> highlights his <b>frugality</b>.</p> <p><b><u>'Squeezing'</u></b> and <b><u>'wrenching'</u></b> connote a struggle, this reinforcing how Scrooge struggles to <b>assimilate</b> (blend) into society. Alternatively, this is a criticism that Scrooge does not endure any struggles, yet creates struggle for the poor.</p> |
| The setting                              | <p>The weather is a <b>motif</b> (recurring symbol) throughout the novella, typically changing alongside Scrooge.</p> <p>Dickens uses <b>pathetic fallacy</b>: <b><u>"fog and darkness thickened"</u></b> to resemble the bleakness of the protagonist (main character) Scrooge.</p> <p>Dickens <b>personifies</b> the weather as it is <b><u>"piercing, searching, biting cold"</u></b>. The power of the nature may be an allusion to the forthcoming supernatural powers to come.</p>  |

# Stave 2

| POINT                       | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| The foggy weather           | <p><b><u>"Still very foggy and extremely cold"</u></b> the <b>pathetic fallacy foreshadows</b> how Scrooge will remain oblivious and ignorant.</p> <p><b><u>"fog"</u></b> can also represent <b>institutionalised oppression</b> (the government and people in charge controlling the people), Dickens uses this to <b>subtly indict</b> how the oppression is in every <b>crevice in London</b>.</p>   |
| His rejection of redemption | <p>Ghost of Christmas past is full of the <b><u>"bright clear jet of light"</u></b>. This creates an <b>iridescent image</b> suggestive of how the ghost is trying to brighten Scrooge's life through <b>revelation (revealing his past) and reminiscence (reflecting on his past)</b>.</p> <p>Scrooge <b>resists his chance of redemption</b>, as he wants to <b>exterminate</b> this due him unable to confront his pain from the past: <b><u>"he seized the extinguisher-cap, and by a sudden action pressed it down upon its head."</u></b></p> <p>As he is unsuccessful in restricting the ghosts light, this mirrors how Scrooge will be <b>unsuccessful in obstructing his redemption</b>.</p> |
| Evoking pathos              | <p><b><u>"I was bred in this place. I was a boy here!"</u></b>. The <b>exclamative sentence</b> provides the reader with the first insight to a benevolent Scrooge - Scrooge is <b>not consciously repressing his emotions, he is momentarily liberated</b>.</p> <p>He is described as <b><u>"A solitary child, neglected by his friends"</u></b> which is reminiscent of his previous description of <b><u>"solitary as an oyster"</u></b>.</p> <p>The repeatedly use adjective of <b><u>"solitary"</u></b> highlights how Scrooge's neglected and 'solitary' state as a <b>defenceless</b> child has directly caused his lonesome and 'solitary' adult existence.</p>                               |

| POINT               | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS  |
|---------------------|--|
| Nostalgia           | <p>He is presented as having a warm and <b>welcoming</b> <b>ambience</b> around him, as when watching Fezziwig's party unfold <b><u>"His heart and soul were in the scene, and with his former self."</u></b> This is a direct juxtaposition to his former cold presentation where the <b><u>"cold had little influence"</u></b>.</p>  |
| Dismantled marriage | <p>Scrooge's younger self is described as <b><u>"he signs of care and avarice. There was an eager, greedy, restless motion in the eye"</u></b>.</p> <p>As <b>avarice is one of the 7 deadly sins</b>, condemned in a highly religious Victorian society, <b>his embodiment</b> of 7 deadly sins foreshadows that his disintegration of his marriage is <b>synonymous with his greed</b>.</p> <p><b><u>"golden"</u></b> idol has <b><u>"displaced"</u></b> Belle. As <b>'golden'</b> connotes valuable and precious, this is used ironically to indict how Scrooge, <b>a microcosm of the upper class</b>, views materialistic items as valuable and precious over loved ones and other members of society.</p> |

# Stave 3

| POINT                                | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Beginning of his redemption          | <p>Shows respect and is receptive to the ghosts teaching: <b><u>"forgive me if I am not justified in what I ask"</u></b>. this has <b>biblical undertones of asking for salvation and forgiveness</b> from God- <b><u>"forgive me father for I have sinned"</u></b>.</p> <p>Scrooge appears <b>submissive</b> to the ghost, open and <b>welcoming the idea of his moral and spiritual awakening</b>: <b><u>"Scrooge entered timidly, and hung his head before this Spirit"</u></b>.</p> <p>The <b>asyndetic list</b> <b><u>'ivy, turkey, geese, game, poultry, brown, meat, pigs, sausages, oysters...'</u></b> creates an <b>image of abundance and excessive wealth</b>. The use of <b><u>"oysters"</u></b> mirrors Scrooge's earlier depiction of being <b><u>"solitary as an oyster"</u></b>.</p> |
| Understanding the plight of the poor | <p><b>Displaying genuine emotions of remorse, compassion, and empathy</b>: <b><u>"tell me if Tiny Tim will live."</u></b></p> <p>Scrooge's use of imperatives, paired with the verb "cried", highlights his <b>catharsis</b> (an emotional release) as he is so overcome with guilt due to his <b>blatant disregard and ignorance to the plight of the destitute</b>.</p> <p>Scrooge feels <b>intense remorse</b> as he has seen the physical effects of his <b>blissful ignorance towards the plight of the poor</b>- Tiny Tim is <b>microcosmic for the victimisation of poor children</b>.</p>   |
| Ignorance and want                   | <p><b>Allegorical characters</b> aim to highlight the <b>unjustified abuse on innocent children as a result of poverty</b>.</p> <p>Their skin is <b><u>"yellow"</u></b> connotes sickness mirroring how the upper class believed that poverty was almost alike to a <b>contagious illness or sickness</b>.</p> <p>Feral and animalistic portrayal of the children as they're described as <b><u>"scowling"</u></b> and <b><u>"wolfish"</u></b>. This animalistic image highlights how poverty <b>dehumanises individuals, stripping them of their humanity and reducing them to less than an animalistic state</b>.</p>   |

# Stave 4

| POINT  | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS   |
|--|---|
| The futility of valuing finances over people | <p>Dickens uses <b>prolepsis</b> (hints at what will happen in the future) to create Scrooge to have a <b>proleptic death</b>.</p> <p><b>Economical language</b> around Scrooge's death to highlight that Scrooge's focus on being <b><u>"a good man of business"</u></b> has caused his <b>solitary and sombre</b> death: <b><u>"What has he done with his money?"</u></b>, <b><u>"cheap funeral"</u></b>, <b><u>"marketing the corpse"</u></b>.</p>   |
| His neglected death                          | <p><b><u>"a bare, uncurtained bed"</u></b> on a <b><u>"ragged sheet"</u></b>. The <b>image of exposure</b> suggests Scrooge is <b>exposed in his death, his money failing to protect him when he is no longer alive</b>.</p> <p><b><u>"overrun by grass and weeds"</u></b>- presents the <b><u>"grass and weeds"</u></b> as having <b>more vitality and life than him. This is a mockery of his materialistic driven life</b>.</p> <p>The <b>exclamative sentence</b> of it being <b><u>"a worthy place!"</u></b> is a form of <b>karmic retribution</b>- Scrooge's <b>frugal and miserly existence</b> has been justly punished.</p> |
| His desperation for redemption               | <p><b><u>"hear me! I am not the man I was"</u></b>. The <b>imperative phrase</b> <b><u>"hear me!"</u></b> shows Scrooge's desperation to be allowed a chance at <b>redemption and salvation</b>.</p> <p>Scrooges realisation marks the <b>climax of the allegorical novella</b> as he says <b><u>"I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me"</u></b>.</p> <p>The concept of <b><u>"three"</u></b> could be a biblical allusion to the three different forms of God within the <b>holy trinity: the father, the son and the holy spirit</b>.</p>                           |

# Stave 5

| POINT                             | SUMMARISED ANALYSIS  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| His redemption                    | <p>The triple simile <u><b>"I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a schoolboy"</b></u>.</p> <p><u><b>"I am as a light as a feather"</b></u> is the antithesis to his the simile in stave one of him being <u><b>"as hard and sharp as a flint"</b></u>: Scrooge feels he has been <b>liberated</b>, now feeling <b>"light"</b>, from the <b>burdens</b> of carrying his once <u><b>"own low temperature"</b></u>.</p> <p>The <b>religious simile</b> <u><b>"happy as an angel"</b></u> highlights how Scrooge feels that his <b>redemption has led him back to the path of God and faith</b>.</p>                          |
| His rebirth                       | <p><b>Infantile language</b> in stave 5 indicates his rebirth. He calls himself <u><b>"quite a baby"</b></u> and <u><b>"as merry as a schoolboy"</b></u>.</p> <p>Scrooge is showcasing how through him <b>repenting for his sins</b>, he has regained his youthful innocence and ability to see the world is an untainted light.</p> <p>Scrooge has been reborn as he has gone from an <u><b>"old sinner"</b></u> back to the most innocent form of human life.</p> <p>The <b>idea of rebirth is salient in Christianity</b>. It is believed that a rebirth indicates that a person develops a <b>strong personal and emotional connection with God</b>.</p> |
| The weather                       | <p><u><b>"No fog, no mist; clear, bright, jovial"</b></u> as fog symbolises institutionalised oppression, could show how if <b>parsimonious</b> (stingy) upper class individuals changed, alike to Scrooge, then <b>institutionalised oppression would be eradicated</b>.</p>  |
| Acts of atonement (making amends) | <p>Scrooge becomes <b>altruistic and benevolent</b>- his acts of atonement towards the Cratchits are exemplary of this: <u><b>"I'll send it to Bob Cratchit's"</b></u>.</p> <p>Dickens highlights that the uniting of the lower and upper classes, would eliminate social ills, shows this through scrooge taking on a <b>paternal role</b> of being a <u><b>"second father"</b></u> to Tiny Tim.</p>  |