

The Ghost of Christmas Past

THEME	Stave	QUOTES	ANALYSIS
Selfishness/ Materialism	2	<u>"bright clear jet of light"</u>	The ghost is trying to eradicate Scrooge's selfishness through illuminating his past.
Supernatural	2	<u>"It was a strange figure—like a child: yet not so like a child as like an old man"</u>	The ghost is presented as paradoxical and conflicting , not conforming to the physical ideas of the human world. The juxtaposition of it being <u>"like a child"</u> and simultaneously <u>"like an old man"</u> is metaphorical for Scrooge. He appears physically alike to an <u>"old man"</u> as he is branded an <u>"old sinner"</u> , yet is vulnerable and isolated akin to how he was as a <u>"child"</u> .
	2	<u>"one arm, now with one leg, now with twenty legs, now a pair of legs"</u>	The ghosts can also be seen to be supernatural incarnations of Scrooge. its metamorphosis (physical transformation) and transmutation (change in a surprising manner) could be symbolic of how Scrooge's transmutation is imminent .
Religion	2	<u>"wore a tunic of the purest white"</u>	<u>"purest white"</u> creates a celestial image of heaven and purity from sin . As the ghost wears a <u>"tunic"</u> of this colour, it is suggestive that his aim is to resurface Scrooge's repressed memories and emotions in order to purify him from his previous sins . This would allow Scrooge at a chance of redemption to later enter heaven .
Regret/ Redemption	2	<u>"bright clear jet of light"</u>	<u>"Light"</u> creates an image of hope and brightness, this symbolises how the ghost's function is to brighten up Scrooge's life with his moral awakening . The ghost's function is to show Scrooge how hopeful and joyous life he could lead if he embarks on a pathway of redemption .
	2	<u>"could not hide the light"</u>	As the ghost's light is emblematic of hope , it foreshadows how Scrooge cannot escape his redemption. The ghost will help aid Scrooge to his moral and spiritual awakening and he cannot <u>"hide"</u> from this.