

"The Tyger" consists of six quatrains. The first and last quatrains are almost identical, with subtle differences in their punctuation and the change of the word "could" to "dare." This is important because the four stanzas in between characterize the creator that made the tiger as being daring—that is, the tiger is a fearsome creature and its creator must have been brave to make it. Assuming the creator to be God, the one-word change between the first and last stanzas speaks to the fact that God was not just able to make the tiger, but willing. In other words, the speaker of the poem sees God as wanting to introduce fear and danger into the world—and the motivation for that desire is one of the poem's central mysteries. The similarity between the first and final stanzas also gives the poem its own "symmetry," showcasing the kind of artistry and skill that the poem itself discusses as key parts of the act of creation. The form of the poem is itself "framed" symmetrically, just like the tiger. The other important aspect of the form to consider is that the poem consists entirely of questions. This choice speaks to the fact that the poem has doubt and mystery at its heart. These are questions to which there are no clear available answers, but to the speaker, they nonetheless seem to confirm God's power.