

**Troglodytic Owner-Occupier**

*Old flier with a bellyful of fire  
that's hotter than a deep-fat frier,  
your tongue is tougher than a tyre,  
thicker and harder and drier.  
You've the appetite of a vampire.*

*Old flier with a bellyful of fire,  
you're driven by desire to acquire.  
You trickster, rogue and liar.  
You've eyes like snakes', but slyer.  
They're sharp as thorns on briar.*

*Old flier with a bellyful of fire,  
mister mayhem-multiplier.  
Your cry's a terrifier,  
the sound of a suffering choir  
entangled in barbed wire.*

*Old flier with a bellyful of fire,  
soaring higher than church and spire.  
You're lord and magnifier,  
his dragonship, esquire,  
arrogant, for all to admire.*

*By Nick Toczek*

*How does the narrator of the poem feel about dragons? How can you tell?*

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*Can you identify the similes in the poem? (write them down)*

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*What do all the words at the end of each line rhyme with? \_\_\_\_\_*

*How has repetition been used in the poem? \_\_\_\_\_*

Dictionary definitions

**trog·lo·dyte** *n.*

1.
  - a. A member of a fabulous or prehistoric race of people that lived in caves, dens, or holes.
  - b. A person considered to be reclusive, reactionary, out of date, or brutish.

2.
  - a. An anthropoid ape, such as a gorilla or chimpanzee.
  - b. An animal that lives underground, as an ant or a worm

**owner-occupier** - an occupant who owns the home that he/she lives in

**occupant, occupier, resident** - someone who lives at a particular place for a prolonged period or who was born there

Why do you think *Troglodytic Owner-Occupier* is the title of the poem?

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What do you think 'driven by desire to acquire' means?

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How has his cry been personified?

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Can you write down three examples of alliteration in the poem?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Although the narrator of the poem is criticising dragons in the first three verses, in the last verse how does he describe him differently?

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Which verse has the rhythm 11/11/7/7/7? \_\_\_\_\_

How many stars would you give this out of 5? (Circle them)

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Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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Practise reading this poem aloud to someone at home. Polish your performance by making sure that you are confident with the vocabulary. Use lots of expression by adjusting your tone and volume and pausing where appropriate.

I will be looking for willing volunteers to perform some or all of the poem to the rest of the class!