

A Christmas Carol – 50 Key Quotations

Stave 1	Stave 2	Stave 3	Stave 4	Stave 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Solitary as an oyster’ • ‘Decrease the surplus population.’ • ‘Bah! Humbug!’ • ‘A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner!’ • ‘Hard and sharp as flint.’ • ‘Playing at hide-and-seek with the other houses’ • ‘Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual melancholy tavern.’ • ‘Darkness was cheap, and Scrooge liked it.’ • ‘The chain...was long, and wound about him like a tail.’ • ‘The fog came pouring in at every chink.’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘The figure itself fluctuated in its distinctness.’ • ‘A lonely boy was reading near a feeble fire’ • ‘Why, it’s Ali Baba.’ Scrooge exclaimed in ecstasy. • ‘Father is so much kinder than he used to be that home’s like heaven!’ • ‘He [Fezziwig] has the power to render us happy or unhappy.’ • ‘Another idol has displaced me...a golden one.’ • ‘I have seen your nobler aspirations fall off one by one, until the master-passion, Gain, engrosses you.’ • ‘I should like to be able to say a word or two to my clerk just now!’ • ‘Spring-time in the haggard winter of his life.’ • "Leave me! Take me back. Haunt me no longer!" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Its dark brown curls were long and free; free as its genial face’ • ‘bright gleaming berries glistened’ • ‘Exchanging a facetious snowball -- better-natured missile.’ • Oh, a wonderful pudding! • ‘Tiny Tim upon his shoulder.’ • ‘I see a vacant seat’ • ‘They were happy, grateful, pleased with one another.’ • ‘Every man among them hummed a Christmas tune.’ • ‘Yellow, meagre, ragged, scowling, wolfish.’ • ‘This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want.’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The phantom slowly, gravely, silently approached.’ • ‘Shrouded in a deep black garment’ • "It's likely to be a very cheap funeral," • ‘The whole quarter reeked with crime, with filth, and misery.’ • ‘We may sleep tonight with light hearts.’ • ‘ “My little, little child!" cried Bob.’ • ‘Quiet. Very quiet. The noisy little Cratchits were as still as statues.’ • ‘Read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, Ebenezer Scrooge.’ • ‘The kind hand trembled.’ • ‘Assure me that I yet may change these shadows’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future!’ • ‘He looked so irresistibly pleasant’ • ‘No fog, no mist; clear, bright’ • ‘A great many back-payments are included’ • ‘Make up the fires, and buy another coal-scuttle’ • ‘I’ll raise your salary’ • ‘Everything could yield him pleasure.’ • ‘Bell, dong, ding; hammer, clang, clash! Oh, glorious, glorious!’ • ‘Wonderful party, wonderful games, wonderful unanimity, won-der-ful happiness!’ • ‘To Tiny Tim, who did not die, he was a second father.’

Key themes and ideas	Settings	Structure and Form	
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Poverty, Fate, Charity, Transformation, Capitalism, Greed, Money, Redemption, Family, Friendship, Religion, Morality, Isolation/Loneliness, Choices, Memory and the past, Compassion, Forgiveness, Guilt and blame, Time, Rationality

Scrooge’s workplace, Scrooge’s living room, Scrooge’s bedroom, the village from Scrooge’s childhood, Scrooge’s school, Fezziwig’s party, the Cratchit residence, the streets of London, the Beetling shop, Fred’s residence, the graveyard.

Conflict- problem faced by characters
 Resolution- point where conflict is resolved
 Foreshadowing- clue about something later
 Foreboding- sense that something will occur
 Juxtaposition- two contrasted ideas
 Backstory- insight into character’s past
 Exposition- revelation of something
 Poetic justice- good rewarded bad punished
 Melodrama- exaggerated characters/events
 Motif- repeated image or symbol
 Antithesis- contrast of ideas in same grammatical structure
 Authorial intrusion- where author pauses to speak directly to reader
 Allegory- characters/events represent ideas about religion, morals or politics



Literature: How does Dickens present the effects of greed in 'A Christmas Carol'?

Reduce: 4 minutes

In no more than 50 words, summarise the extract

He was not alone, but sat by the side of a fair young girl in a mourning-dress: in whose eyes there were tears, which sparkled in the light that shone out of the Ghost of Christmas Past.

"It matters little," she said, softly. "To you, very little. Another idol has displaced me; and if it can cheer and comfort you in time to come, as I would have tried to do, I have no just cause to grieve."

"What Idol has displaced you?" he rejoined.

"A golden one."

"This is the even-handed dealing of the world!" he said. "There is nothing on which it is so hard as poverty; and there is nothing it professes to condemn with such severity as the pursuit of wealth!"

"You fear the world too much," she answered, gently. "All your other hopes have merged into the hope of being beyond the chance of its sordid reproach. I have seen your nobler aspirations fall off one by one, until the master-passion, Gain, engrosses you. Have I not?"

"What then?" he retorted. "Even if I have grown so much wiser, what then? I am not changed towards you."

She shook her head.

"Am I?"

"Our contract is an old one. It was made when we were both poor and content to be so, until, in good season, we could improve our worldly fortune by our patient industry. You *are* changed. When it was made, you were another man."

"I was a boy," he said impatiently.

"Your own feeling tells you that you were not what you are," she returned. "I am. That which promised happiness when we were one in heart, is fraught with misery now that we are two. How often and how keenly I have thought of this, I will not say. It is enough that I *have* thought of it, and can release you."

Prioritise: 5 minutes

Select your top three quotations from the extract

*How can **context** be linked to these three quotations?*

Consider: 5 minutes

What comes before and after this scene?

Where else does Dickens explore the idea of greed in the novel?

Link: 10 minutes

Where else is greed and its effects shown in the novella? Write down the two best quotations you know to support your points.

Alternative Analysis: 12 minutes

Where has a lack of financial greed been shown to have a positive effect on people and the society they live in?