

*Stickboy, by Shane Kozhan*

- Verse novel
- bound like a novel would be, but reads like a very long poem

Uses abstractness and feeling to communicate his message; not describing things, but using the vagueness to make an impact.

There is a sense of power in thinking about things figuratively.

Image / metaphor of the inner-holy man cradling the outer child. the idea of inner philosophy versus outer existence is a motif in the poem. However, he feels powerless against the adults. Teachers keep letting him down, a janitor tells him if he lost weight, maybe he would not be bullied, and the Principal asks him who may have thought done the graffiti, and when he says he doesn't know, he receives detention. Later on, when trying to tell the principal someone is doing something, the Principal tells him not to be a rat. The two people who do not let him down are his grandmother and the old man who came as "a lighthouse", breaking the darkness of the fight and shining shame on those who were bullying him.

My fingers were dynamite, my knuckles grenades. My chest was a brick of C4, and my brain a ticking timeclock, driving mindlessly towards explosion. [When he punches someone.]

I never meant to be this thing

Mother says don't laden his life down with bags of regret - Like Lorna Crozier, Packing for the Future, Instructions

Blames his mother for abandoning him, as if she chose death - Do Not Go Gentle into that Goodnight

He doesn't know what to do with the closet full of his mother's clothes - My Mother and Her Closet Full of Dresses

Blames his mother for all misfortunes in his life - Daddy by Sylvia Plath

He loses all his inner-beings throughout the story; air-raid sirens mentioned in the beginning and the end, gaining meaning by the end when facing the grief of his mother's loss.

	Verse Novel	Spoken Word Poem	Opera
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<p>Advantages</p>	<p>Imagery: Open to more interpretation, you can read at your own pace, and if you take it at your own pace, you can relate it to your individual self. If you read, you are not distracted by visual aids and can form your own images and scenery.</p> <p>Pace: You can stop and think, get a full-understanding.</p> <p>Structural organisation is present.</p>	<p>The pacing conveys the author's meaning better than how you would personally interpret it. the author can put more emphasis on things.</p> <p>The performance is captivating.</p>	<p>Instills a wide range of emotions.</p> <p>Production value.</p>
<p>Disadvantages</p>	<p>You may not finish it.</p> <p>Unclear symbols or sentences.</p> <p>The effort needed to read may limit the audience.</p>	<p>Performance takes over content, the additional elements (music, images, the artist) trump the actual content. Wordplay is also lost.</p> <p>We are now forced into picturing specific images and have limited viewpoints.</p>	<p>Expensive.</p> <p>Considered "pretentious".</p>