# *Venom to Fight Venom*

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| **S** | **Speaker**<br>Who Wrote This? What do we know about him/her? What DON'T we know about him/her? Does this text have a particular meaning because of who wrote it or said it? | - Blythe Blair<br>- Female<br>- Young/College Age<br>- Spoken Word Poet<br>- White |
| **P** | **Purpose**<br>What is the author hoping to accomplish by putting this into the world? Remember main idea or thesis is NOT THE SAME as purpose. | - "For the Rapists Who Call Themselves Feminists"<br>- Title suggests the author is calling out and possibly attacking toxic masculinity, rape culture, and the normalized objectification of women by men.<br>- It is both expressive for the author and reflective for the audience |
| **A** | **Audience**<br>Who was the audience for this piece? Was that the intended audience? What did the author assume about the audience? How do these assumptions impact what is said, and how it is said? | - Young/College aged men<br>- Toxic Men<br>- Young/College aged women<br>- Rape Survivors |
| **C** | **Context**<br>What was happening in the world when this text/ was produced? What were the biggest issues on the author's mind at the time? Is he/she addressing these issues directly or indirectly? How would this same text be received differently by a different audience or in a different time? | - Published synonymously with #metoo movement<br>- Public Performance makes this a public address, calling out individuals<br>- Cultural shift towards the inclusion of minority voice and empowerment<br>- Rape, sexual assault, and hate crimes against women and gender-based hate are trending post VAWA |
| **E** | **Exigence**<br>Why write or say this NOW? What was the spark or catalyst that moved the writer or speaker to act? | - Social focus on women's rights<br>- Author was raped or was forced to relive the trauma of a previous rape |

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| **C** | **Choices**<br>Why does the author make each choice? Why are certain devices used? | - Syntax – Uses long, complex sentences, where ideas build and grow with additional detail<br>- Syntax – Uses direct quotations making the experience personal and accusatory<br>- Syntax –Interrogative, and Exclamatory sentences express deep emotional response and reflection<br>- Diction – Swear words used colloquially to emphasize anger, frustration, and disgust<br>Imagery and Metaphor – Comparing men to wolves hunting and women to the prey between their teeth |
| **A** | **Appeals**<br>How does the author appeal to the audience?<br>• Appeal to Emotion (Pathos)<br>• Appeal to Authority/character (Ethos)<br>• Appeal to Logic (Logos) | - Ethos – there is a general appeal to morality, an expected or agreed upon belief that rape and rape culture is morally wrong<br>- Pathos – most of the narrative and examples are emotionally charged and amplify the victor/victim dynamic to build sympathy or, at least, physically repulse audiences |
| **T** | **Tone**<br>What is the author's attitude toward the subject? How do you know what his/her attitude Is? Where is the evidence? Where does the tone shift? When? Why? | - Absolute anger, rage, hurt, and blame consistently presented through the entirety of the poem |