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**Poem of the Week: *The Choice***

“The Choice” by Dorothy Parker

He’d have given me rolling lands,

Houses of marble, and billowing farms,

Pearls, to trickle between my hands

**Smoldering** rubies, to circle my arms.

You—you’d only a lilting song,

Only a melody, happy and high,

You were sudden and swift and strong,--

Never a thought for another had I.

He’d have given me laces rare,

Dresses that glimmered with frosty sheen,

Shining ribbons to wrap my hair,

Horses to draw me, as fine as a queen.

You—you’d only to whistle low,

Gaily I followed wherever you lead.

I took you, and I let him go,--

Somebody ought to examine my head.

1. “You were sudden and swift and strong” uses what type of figurative language?

a. Onomatopoeia

b. Alliteration

c. Personification

2. Read this dictionary entry:

**Smolder**—***v*** 1. To burn with no flame 2. ***v*** To exist in a suppressed state 3. ***n*** Thick smoke resulting from a slow fire.

The word smoldering in the first stanza best reflects which definition:

a. Definition 1

b. Definition 2

c. Definition 3

3. The line “as fine as a queen” uses what type of figurative language?

a. Personification

b. Metaphor

c. Simile

4. The speaker of the poem describes two men in her life. How do the men differ? (Paraphrase)

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5. The line “Pearls, to trickle between my hands,” is a metaphor. What two things are being compared?

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6. Describe how the tone of the poem changes from the first stanza to the last stanza. Use two details from each stanza as evidence to support your answer.

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**Advanced:** What do you think the speaker of “The Choice” would advise the princess in “The Lady, or the Tiger?” by Frank R. Stockton to do? Why? Explain your answer with direct evidence from the poem and paraphrased evidence from the story. Write your answer on a separate sheet of notebook paper and staple it to this sheet.