

the irony of Injury
by: johnathan flint

1 you see people injured all the time,
2 you see the limp and the bandages,
3 you will never expect it to happen to you,
4 you have hurt before,
5 you think there's no way this can happen, not to you,
6 but you don't see the pain and its story,
7 you don't know that injury is only like a shell to hide the pain,
8 and then it happens,
9 and then you are injured,
10 and it was the worst mistake i ever made.

11 i tried to be persistent,
12 keep shrugging the pain off,
13 perseverance- the answer to everything,
14 no improvement in giving up,
15 if something fails work harder,
16 pain is only a mindset,
17 that's what this sport is,
18 the punishment for other sports,
19 but this time it didn't work,
20 the answer to everything didn't answer this time,
21 because an injury is not a normal problem,
22 injury is as a wild card,
23 it isn't solved by pushing through and being strong,
24 it is solved by giving up,
25 and it hurts more than anything imaginable,
26 because it's not the injury that hurts,
27 what hurts is the helplessness,
28 what hurts is that everybody else is training and i'm not,
29 what hurts is the fact that i was warned,
30 what hurts is that I said it wouldn't happen,
31 what hurts is that now i have to give up,
32 and i would do anything to escape that pain,
33 because running is all i had, running is me,
34 and injury is the killer that takes what you love instead of your life,
35 which becomes a leech that sucks the rest of you away,
36 but when your love is gone there isn't anything to to take anymore
37 and for that reason I see light at the end of the tunnel,
38 because it only goes up from here.

theme- the theme of this poem is confidence at first, but it transitions to sorrow, weakness, and pain, but still hints at a possible light at the end.

simile 1- line 8- "you don't know that injury is only like a shell to hide the pain,"

simile 2- line 22- "injury is as a wild card,"

metaphor 1- line 34- "and injury is the killer,"

metaphor 2- line 35- "which becomes a leech that sucks the rest of you away,"

repetition 1- lines 1-5- "you" used to take the reader through what happened to people who are injured and how it is the same process so it will happen to "you" too.

repetition 2- lines 26-31- "what hurts" emphasis on how it's not the injury that hurts you, but the pain from the results and things you can't do.

parallelism 1- all lower case letters, symbolizes the poem is weak like the letters.

parallelism 2- each stanza is a complete thought and has no end punctuation until the end to the stanza for flow and continuation to make it smoother.

parallelism 3- all simple sentences, symbolizes irony because an injury is different from a normal problem where you need to push through.