

## **A Poison Tree** by William Blake

I was angry with my friend:  
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.  
I was angry with my foe:  
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I watered it in fears,  
Night and morning with my tears;  
And I sunned it with smiles,  
And with soft deceitful wiles.

And it grew both day and night,  
Till it bore an apple bright.  
And my foe beheld it shine,  
And he knew that it was mine,

And into my garden stole,  
When the night had veiled the pole;  
In the morning glad I see  
My foe outstretched beneath the tree.

**WRATH**

Anger

**WILES**

Sneaky ways  
of doing things

**VEILED THE POLE**

Shadowed one side  
of the Earth

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

“A Poison Tree”

By William Blake

**Answer the questions below in complete sentences.**

1. What is the meaning of this poem? (evidence: quote, stanza, & line)
2. What is the rhyme scheme of this poem? (annotate poem)
3. Understand the poet’s mood while he wrote this poem. (evidence: quote, stanza, & line)
4. What does the apple in the poem represent? (evidence: quote, stanza, & line)
5. Why does the poet’s wrath end once he tells his friend about it, but his wrath grows because he says nothing? (evidence: quote, stanza, & line)
6. Write about a time you were angry at someone. Did your wrath grow or did it go away?
7. Why is it important to express your feelings to your friends, even if you are angry? (evidence: quote, stanza, & line)
8. Sketch the poison tree below.