

Double Etheree

Twelve Christmas Crackers

When
our son
brought English
crackers to pop.
we enjoyed shiny
papered tubes with end tufts.
Two take each end and then pull.
Contents spill on floor—toys, hats, jokes
even shoe horns and plastic paper clips.
Surprises burst from Christmas containers.
The jokes on small slick paper are clever.
Everyone tries on the tugging duo.
Discarded paper placed in bag.
Tiny treasures get chosen.
Family laughter brings
holiday spirit
even closer;
celebrates
Christmas
cheer.

Preplanning Parties

Plan
ahead.
Wait and see
if schedules
permit gathering.
Decorate
for season.
Anticipate holiday.
Dates flexible for partying.
Celebrate family whenever
we can get together. Imagine
valentines carried by Easter Bunny
or Easter eggs scrambled for May Day,
fireworks Halloween, witches
not Pilgrims on Thanksgiving.
Pumpkins in fall okay.
Turkeys not Santa
deliver gifts.
Must seek a
better
plan.

Kip 27 Years Later

Kip
lost son,
ray of light
quenched in darkness
remains a bright spark
in dreams and dimensions
beyond by touch, but not thoughts.
Memories and reveries haunt.
Without access, hope, I remember
the joy you brought for nineteen treasured years.
I see you on the soccer field—intense
each fiber muscling to victory.
Same with baseball, giving your all.
Your laughs, hugs, broad gorgeous smile,
dreams of being writer,
sharing many warm
celebrations,
so handsome
so loved
Kip.

Double Etheree: Etheree invented by Etheree Taylor Armstrong.

Syllable count for a Double Etheree which forms diamond pattern when centered or an arrowhead when flush left is: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

It is unrhymed, but you might like to try to rhyme one.