**Notes on Metaphors**

A metaphor is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of two things \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like or as.

Ex. Canada, the country to the north of the USA, is cooler than a polar bear’s toenails.

What is being compared? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean? What is the image in your head? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ex. The bodybuilder’s legs were tree trunks.

What is being compared? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean? What is the image in your head? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Analyzing Poems

1. Circle the metaphors in the poem below.
2. Draw one image that the metaphors in the poem convey (show, or illustrate)
3. Write what you think is the central message of this poem.

Image

**Fifth of July**

My family is an expired firecracker  
set off by the blowtorch of divorce. We lay  
scattered in many directions.  
My father is the wick, badly burnt  
but still glowing softly.  
My mother is the blackened paper fluttering down,  
blowing this way and that, unsure where to land.  
My sister is the fallen, colorful parachute,  
lying in a tangled knot, unable to see the beauty she  
holds.  
My brother is the fresh, untouched powder that  
was protected from the flame. And I,  
I am the singed, outside papers, curled away  
from everything, silently cursing  
the blowtorch.

Bonus: underline all of the pronouns in this poem that you can find.

Central Message