Guilt

To and fro,

I paced my old rounds.

Loathsomely treasuring up, the secret of my sin.

My head ached.

I grew very pale.

And I fancied a ringing in my ears.

With this horrible crime,

Upon my soul.

I am now passing to the judgment.

My eyes had flashed,

With a fierce light.

I had made up my mind,

To take the life of the old man.

He had ventured upon insult.

I vowed revenge.

And as I did,

I felt every fiber in my frame thrill.

But for a brief moment,

I hesitated.

Commentary

I wrote this poem in an A B A format. The poem begins with the narrator explaining his feelings of guilt. He never says why he feels guilty, just that it is a secret sin. In part B, the narrator flashes back to what he did. I wanted to add this part to the poem so the reader could see how the narrators feelings changed from when he killed, to where he is now. The last part of the poem goes back to the feelings of guilt. In this part however the narrator admits to what he has done. The guilt has finally gotten to him, and he realizes that he can not take back what he did. I chose to write the poem like this so that it did not start like most stories do. You do not know why the man is guilty, so it makes it more interesting to read and want to find out. I hope this poem creates strong feelings to the narrator. I want the reader to understand the guilt, before even reading part B.