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| **Trio**  Coming up Buchanan Street, quickly, on a sharp winter evening  a young man and two girls, under the Christmas lights –  The young man carries a new guitar in his arms,  the girl on the inside carries a very young baby,  and the girl on the outside carries a chihuahua.  And the three of them are laughing, their breath rises  in a cloud of happiness, and as they pass  the boy says, ‘Wait till he sees this but!’  The chihuahua has a tiny Royal Stewart tartan coat like a teapot-  holder,  the baby in its white shawl is all bright eyes and mouth like favours  in a fresh sweet cake,  the guitar swells out under its milky plastic cover, tied at the neck  with silver tinsel tape and a brisk sprig of mistletoe.  Orphean sprig! Melting baby! Warm chihuahua!  The vale of tears is powerless before you.  Whether Christ is born, or is not born, you  put paid to fate, it abdicates  under the Christmas lights.  Monsters of the year  go blank, are scattered back,  can’t bear this march of three.  – And the three have passed, vanished in the crowd  (yet not vanished, for in their arms they wind  the life of men and beasts, and music,  laughter ringing them round like a guard)  at the end of this winter’s day. | Means three – it is Christmas time so it is like the ‘three wise men’  Sets scene in Glasgow before Christmas  Each is carrying a gift like a wise man – one even has a baby like Jesus and the Chihuahua represents the stable animals.  They have an aura of warmth to them that contrasts with weather  **Metaphor** – they are in their own bubble of fun.  **Dialect** – sets it in Glasgow as this is common phrasing in Scots.  **Simile -** compares dog’s coat to teapot-holder to hightlight smallness and gaudiness.  Symbolises love and hope because it talks about weddings  The baby and guitar are in white – symbolising purity and innocence  Pace quickens here. Each item exclaimed makes us think about it.  Morgan suggests that religion is not the important thing, it is how we treat others that is relevant to being a good person.  **Personification –** all the bad things of the year become ‘monsters’ and they run away when they see these three coming down the street because they are frightened by their happiness.  **Simile –** their happiness protects them. |