

The Gettysburg Address  
 Abraham Lincoln  
 November 19, 1863  
 266 words

**Genesis Threads™**  
 Union--Conceive- Conception-New  
 birth-Live-Living, Endure  
 Dedication-Devotion-Consecration  
 All men created equal-unfinished work

Rhyme

- 1 FOUR SCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO
- 2 OUR FATHERS BROUGHT FORTH ON THIS CONTINENT
- 3 A NEW NATION
- 4 CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY
- 5 AND DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION
- 6 THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

Alliteration:  
Tautogram

Metaphor

7 NOW **WE** ARE ENGAGED IN A GREAT CIVIL WAR

Introduction ↑

Echo

- 8 TESTING WHETHER THAT NATION,
- 9 OR ANY NATION SO CONCEIVED
- 10 AND SO DEDICATED
- 11 CAN LONG ENDURE.

Rule of 3

Alpha progressive—Conceived,  
Dedicated, Endure

Metaphor

- 12 WE ARE MET ON A GREAT BATTLEFIELD OF THAT WAR.
- 13 WE HAVE COME TO DEDICATE A PORTION OF THAT FIELD
- 14 AS A FINAL RESTING PLACE
- 15 FOR THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
- 16 THAT THAT NATION MIGHT LIVE.
- 17 IT IS ALTOGETHER FITTING AND PROPER

Echo: Lives/  
Live

That war, that field, Those  
who, gave Their, that that  
Nation, that we, do this.

Double entendre—honor the  
dead, perpetuate the union

18 THAT WE SHOULD DO THIS.<sup>1</sup>

19 BUT, IN A LARGER SENSE,

20 WE CANNOT DEDICATE

21 WE CANNOT CONSECRATE--

22 WE CANNOT HOLLOW--

23 THIS GROUND.

Rule of 3:  
Echo

Tricolon crescens—Combination of three  
elements increasing in size or significance.

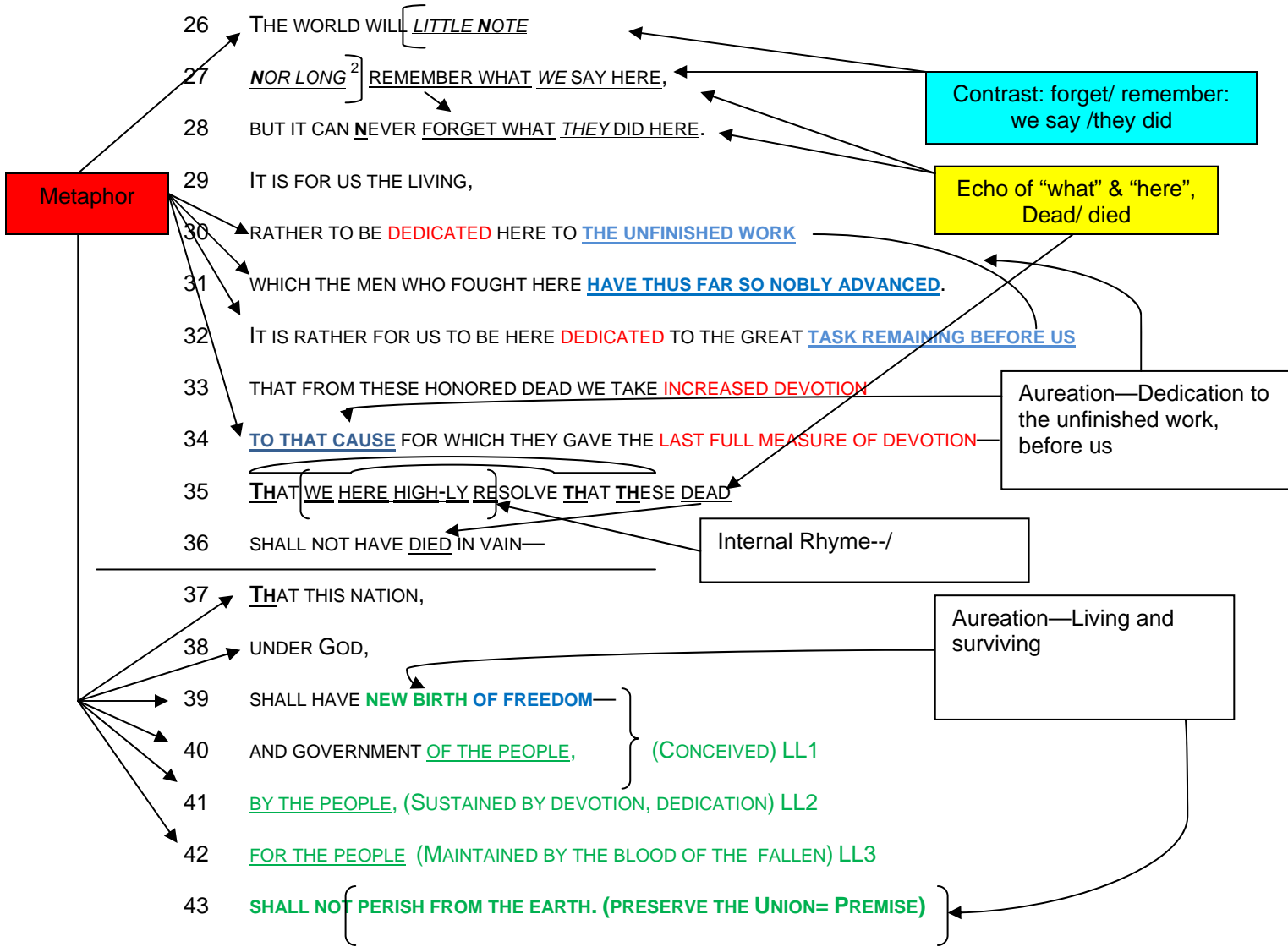
Contrast

Metaphor

- 24 THE BRAVE MEN LIVING AND DEAD WHO STRUGGLED HERE
- 25 HAVE CONSECRATED IT FAR ABOVE OUR POOR POWER TO ADD OR DEDUCT.

Alliteration--consonance

<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Double\\_entendre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Double_entendre). A double entendre is a figure of speech in which a spoken phrase is devised to be understood in either of two ways. This phrase has a double meaning.



<sup>2</sup> "Little Note-Nor Long Remember" Lincoln here uses internal rhyme (note nor). The speech was likely delivered with a brief pause between Note/Nor. This doubling of the consonant N is a form of anadiplosis: last word/sound in one phrase becomes the first word/sound in the second. The L/N (first letter of each word) is reversed NL in the second phrase. The structure is chiasmus.