

A December Dilemma

Jordan Trethewey, City of Fredericton Poet Laureate 2021 – 2023
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Find the boxes in December.

Attic? Garage? Can't remember.

Reveal the tangled wads of wire.

Purchase more at Canadian Tire?

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!

Christmas season, a grand scene.

Made for children. Like a dream.

We need to make the Yuletide bright,

but first we must unknot the lights!

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!

Lights unkinked, we then remember
clips required for windy weather.
Digging through mislabeled bins,
can't find any trace of them.

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!

Wife blames husband. Husband, wife.

Plug them in. There is no light.

Strands in use for generations,
decide to quit on *this* vacation.

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!

First instinct is always greatest,
go to store and buy the latest
multi-function LED's,

they look fantastic in your trees.

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!

With ceremony, plug them in,
wearing your best Griswold grin.
When they blink, despite this bustle,
children's smiles are why we hustle.

Red and yellow, green and blue.

KIDS:

These lights for me!

ADULTS:

These lights for you!