

# The Firewood Poem- Lady Celia Congreve

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These hardwoods burn well and slowly,  
Ash, beech, hawthorn oak and holly.  
Softwoods flare up quick and fine, Birch,  
fir, hazel, larch and pine. Elm and willow  
you'll regret, Chestnut green and  
sycamore wet.

Beechwood fires are bright and clear, If  
the logs are kept a year. Chestnut's only  
good, they say, If for long 'tis laid away.  
But Ash new or Ash old, Is fit for a queen  
with crown of gold.

Birch and fir logs bum too fast, Blaze up  
bright and do not last. It is by the Irish  
said, Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread.  
Elm wood bums like churchyard mould,  
E'en the very flames are cold. But Ash  
green or Ash brown, Is fit for a queen with  
golden crown.

Poplar gives a bitter smoke, Fills your eyes  
and makes you choke. Apple wood will  
scent your room, With an incense like  
perfume. Oaken logs if dry and old, Keep  
away the winter's cold. But Ash wet or  
Ash dry, A king shall warm his slippers by.

Oak logs will warm you well, That are old  
and dry. Logs of pine will sweetly smell,  
But the sparks will fly. Birch logs will burn  
too fast, Chestnut scarce at all sir.  
Hawthorn logs are good to last, That are  
cut well in the fall sir

Holly logs will burn like wax, You could  
burn them green. Elm logs burn like  
smouldering flax, With no flame to be  
seen. Beech logs for winter time, Yew logs  
as well sir. Green elder logs it is a crime,  
For any man to sell sir.

Pear logs and apple logs, They will scent  
your room. And cherry logs across the  
dogs, They smell like flowers of broom.  
But Ash logs smooth and grey, Buy them  
green or old, sir. And buy up all that come  
your way, They're worth their weight in  
gold sir.

Logs to Burn, Logs to burn, Logs to burn,  
Logs to save the coal a turn. Here's a word  
to make you wise, When you hear the  
woodman's cries. Never heed his usual  
tale, That he has good logs for sale. But  
read these lines and really learn, The  
proper kind of logs to burn.