

(1) Contrasts? pic. on screen  
 expl. oldest trees in Britain = symbolic of death (near cemet.)

The Moon and The Yew Tree by Sylvia Plath

(-) alone (-)  
 This is the light of the mind, cold and planetary  
 The trees of the mind are black. The light is blue.  
 The grasses unload their griefs on my feet as if I were God simile

(1st POV.)  
 (7-line stanzas = Septet)

personific. grass  
 Prickling my ankles and murmuring of their humility  
 Fumy, spiritous mists inhabit this place.  
 Separated from my house by a row of headstones. } cemetery / death  
 I simply cannot see where there is to get to. > pt. of it all?

\* moon = associated w/ female traits

(-) moon swears  
 The moon is no door. It is a face in its own right, narcissistic  
 White as a knuckle and terribly upset. personific. / angry - takes out on sea her rage  
 It drags the sea after it like a dark crime; it is quiet simile

moon latches in anger-grip.  
 With the O-gape of complete despair. I live here. } physical space or mental?  
 Twice on Sunday, the bells startle the sky - personific. / church bells  
 Eight great tongues affirming the Resurrection  
 At the end, they soberly bong out their names.

ie. pagan; mother nature  
 The yew tree points up, it has a Gothic shape. imagery  
 The eyes lift after it and find the moon. contrast  
 The moon is my mother. She is not sweet like Mary. simile // Biblical/allusions  
 Her blue garments unloose small bats and owls. } nocturnal creatures of night / w/ mother

How I would like to believe in tenderness -  
 The face of the effigy, gentled by candles, } deceased / memorial service  
 Bending, on me in particular, its mild eyes. } watching narrator

off? hope?  
 I have fallen a long way. Clouds are flowering  
 Blue and mystical over the face of the stars  
 Inside the church, the saints will all be blue,  
 Floating on their delicate feet over the cold pews,  
 Their hands and faces stiff with holiness.  
 The moon sees nothing of this. She is bald and wild.  
 And the message of the yew tree is blackness - blackness and silence.

of the devout repetition color-symbol.

pagan? paganism vs. Christianity; note Plath wrote about mother + struggles in light of father (nature vs. religious order)