

I felt a funeral, in my  
brain



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

In my opinion, Emily Dickinson as a transcendentalist used her poetry to describe the process of transcendental meditation, particularly the meditation of death. In this poem she tries to allow us to experience our true nature by entering directly into our conscious. The poem is a deep seeking of the nature of death, the death that is a process of expansion and transformation from solidarity to a spaciousness.

When she says: " I felt a funeral in my brain, and mourners to and fro, kept treading, treading till it seemed that sense was breaking through... " She focuses on the sensation of being in the body, feeling the body's substantiality and solidity, and the heaviness caused by gravity pulling on its very substance.

When she says ..." And then I heard them lift a box and creak across my soul, With those same boots of lead, again the space began to toll..." I believe this to be an expression of the awareness a " Light Body" experiences, seeing , tasting, touching, and the like. The body that is within the heavy or outer body.

" As all the heavens were a bell, and being but an ear, and I, and silence, some strange race, wrecked, solitary here" I believe is a reference to the phase where the " Light Body" becomes separated from the " Heavy Body" and everything floats free. " And then a plank in reason broke, and I dropped down, and down, and hit a world at every plunge, and finished knowing then-" I believe this to be gently and gradually dying and into the light and free of knowing. Thinking that all that comes to mind is old and are just old thoughts, and we do not have to hold to them. Giving a new birth to ourselves, to observe peace, mercy, kindness, and healing the pain we suffer from.

Zhaleh Chaharlangi

The poem is only superficially about the funeral; It is " concerned with the intuitive knowledge of eternity gained through an intimation of death....."

Monteiro

In a sence the poet becomes the funeral and the series of events portrayed takes on " psychological signifiganceas a poetic expression of the disintegration of the ego."

Walters

" The poem is an interesting and extremely complex statement on the relationship between the body and the soul during a time of mental anguish."