

# Chapter 27

- a) Explain the significance of each of these sentences / phrases... (Write brief notes next to the text.)

"I'm going back to the hospital, Conor," his grandma said, dropping him off at his house. "I don't like leaving her like this. What do you need that's so important?"

"There's something I have to do," Conor said, looking at the home where he'd spent his entire life. It seemed empty and foreign, even though it wasn't very long since he'd left.

1. He realized it would probably never be his home again.

"I'll be back in an hour to get you," his grandma said. "We'll have dinner at the hospital."

2. Conor wasn't listening. He was already shutting the car door behind him.

3. "One hour," his grandma called to him through the closed door.

4. "You're going to want to be there tonight."

Conor kept on walking up his own front steps.

5. "Conor?" his grandma called after him. But he didn't look back.

He barely heard her pull the car out onto the street and drive away.



"Me?" Conor said, stopping his squirming in the monster's hand. "I don't need healing. My mum's the one who's..."

6. they'd had the talk. Even though he'd known it all along. Because of course he had, of course he did, no matter how much he'd wanted to believe it wasn't true, of course he knew. But still he couldn't say it.

Couldn't say that she was—

He was still crying furiously and finding it hard to breathe. He felt like he was splitting open, like his body was twisting apart.

7. He looked back up at the monster. "Help me," he said, quietly.

*It is time, the monster said, for the fourth tale.*

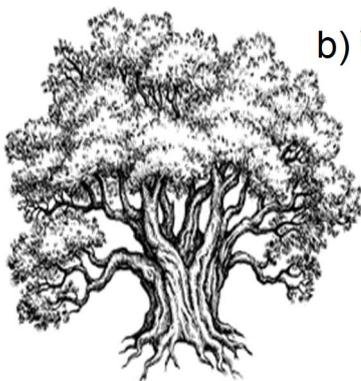
Conor let out an angry yell. "No! That's not what I meant! There are more important things happening!"

Yes, the monster said. Yes, there are.

It opened its free hand.

The mist surrounded them again.

8. And once more, they were in the middle of the nightmare.



- b) What was your first impression of the Yew Tree Monster?

- c) What is your impression of the Yew Tree Monster now?