*Reconciliation*

**Explication Worksheet**

Find and record examples of the following:

* Alliteration
* Images of war
* References to Celtic tradition

Explicate (unfold) the meaning of the title.

Conflict: What are the central conflicts of this poem? Find examples.

*Words*

**Explication Worksheet**

*Subjective Voice:* In some ways, this might be Yeats’ most subjective poem. What lines evidence this subjectivity?

*Conflict:*

* What is the central conflict this poem addresses?
* What lines evidence this conflict?
* What is the relationship between love and art, suffering and poetry, expressed in this poem?

Explicate, “My darling cannot understand/ what I have done, or what would do/In this blind bitter land.’

* What is it she cannot understand
* How does “what he would do” relate to this “blind bitter land.”

Explicate: “the best I have done/ Was done to make it plain,” and “I have come into my strength.” What is Yeats talking about here?

Desire: what is the *desire* being expressed in this poem?

What is ironic about the line “That had she done so who can say/ what would have shaken from the sieve?”

* “That had she done” what? What is the “done so” referring to?
* What does this observation say about the origins of the creative impulse?

*Comparative analysis:* how is the theme of this poem similar to the theme of *No Second Troy* and *Leda and the Swan?*

Theme: how does this poem express the conflict between art and life?