

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **To a Friend Whose Work Has Come to Triumph**

Anne Sexton

Consider Icarus, pasting those sticky wings on,  
testing that strange little tug at his shoulder blade,  
and think of that first flawless moment over the lawn  
of the labyrinth. Think of the difference it made!  
There below are the trees, as awkward as camels;  
and here are the shocked starlings pumping past  
and think of innocent Icarus who is doing quite well.  
Larger than a sail, over the fog and the blast  
of the plushy ocean, he goes. Admire his wings!  
Feel the fire at his neck and see how casually  
he glances up and is caught, wondrously tunneling  
into that hot eye. Who cares that he fell back to the sea?  
See him acclaiming the sun and come plunging down  
while his sensible daddy goes straight into town.



1. After watching the video, briefly summarize the myth of Icarus (in point format):

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2. How and why does Anne Sexton use the allusion to the myth of Icarus to convey her meaning?

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3. Explain the meaning of the title and how it relates to the myth of Icarus.

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4. Explain the theme of the poem and use evidence from the poem to support your answer.

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