Strange Fruit by Lewis Allen

Southern trees bear a strange fruit
Blood on the leaves and blood at the root
Black bodies swingin' in the Southern breeze
Strange fruit hangin' from the poplar trees

Pastoral scene of the gallant South
The bulging eyes and the twisted mouth
Scent of magnolia, sweet and fresh
Then the sudden smell of burning flesh

Here is the fruit for the crows to pluck
For the rain to gather, for the wind to suck
For the sun to rot, for the tree to drop
Here is a strange and bitter crop

1. What is the poem describing?

2. What are three examples of imagery in the poem? (Try to include more than one sense)
   A. __________________________________________________ ________________________________
   B. _______________________________________________ ________________________________
   C. _______________________________________________ ________________________________

3. Explain the main metaphor in this poem.

4. Using some of the ideas in questions #1 - #3, write a response in one paragraph to the poem. Use correct spelling, punctuation, grammar and capitalization.

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