the church is imprinted on her mind

she has tried to run from it

but it grew great oak roots in her life from her earliest childhood memories

she is engulfed by it

the teachings are gone like the dead in the graveyard but the emotional damage lives on

she is ensnared and entangled

by the bows of the oak tree her mind says do not believe

she cannot escape its power

the effects of male dominance are real the singing and the security

she does remember

now there is no comfort only isolation

Jo Beth Gray