

Character from "Great Expectations" - only her maiden name - reminder of being jilted.

Oxymoron - shows her conflicted emotions over her lost love - think line between love and hate. Plosives to create a harsh, spiteful tone.

Word choice - connotations of desperation - shows just how much she wants to hurt him.

Metaphor - pebbles are small and hard - her eyes have shrunk from being inside with no light. Green has connotations of jealousy - she is jealous of those who are happy.

Havisham

Inversion - shows her strongly negative feelings - hatred has consumed her and she is committed to hurting him.

Metaphor - veins on her hands due to her age or clenching - link to hanging - wants to cause him harm.

Beloved sweetheart bastard. Not a day since then

I haven't wished him dead. Prayed for it

so hard I've dark green pebbles for eyes,

ropes on the back of my hands I could strangle with.

Word choice - wants to cause harm - has violent thoughts about the one she once loved.

One word sentence - spat out. Reflects the fact that she is bitter about being forever known as this. This is all she sees herself as.

Short sentence - to show how little she does. Doesn't care for her appearance as she spends her time dwelling on memories.

Enjambment - amount of time spent reflecting on it.

Onomatopoeia - shows extent of her distress.

Word choice of "yellowing" suggests decay, growing old - shows how long she has been isolated and dwelling on this for.

Spinster. I stink and remember. Whole days

in bed cawing Nooooo at the wall; the dress

yellowing, trembling if I open the wardrobe;

the slewed mirror, full-length, her, myself, who did this

Word choice - connotations of animalistic - suggests she has lost her humanity and is anguished.

Word choice - connotations of distortion - reflects her image of her old self.

Word choice suggests weakness, vulnerability - could be her current distressed state or her thinking the dress is moving. Sign of mental instability.

Doesn't recognise herself anymore - in a state of confusion.

Purple - anger flooding her face while swearing.

Enjambment to pause to reflect on the state of her now. She's changed so much and can't quite believe it.

to me? Puce curses that are sounds not words.

Some nights better, the lost body over me,

my fluent tongue in its mouth in its ear

then down till I suddenly bite awake. Love's

Fantatising about being with him again sexually.

So angry she can't form words - animalistic image again.

Word choice - connotations of agility - being well practised - she dreams of this and what could have been a lot.

Dehumanising him - he has just become a sexual object.

Dreams of emasculating him - waking up to the harsh reality that she is no longer with him.

Enjambment/oxymoron to highlight the thin line between these and how she went quickly from one to the other.

Plosives to create harsh tone - balloon symbolises their love/relationship blowing up and ending suddenly. Short sentence to create sudden shock.

hate behind a white veil; a red balloon bursting

in my face. Bang. I stabbed at a wedding cake.

Give me a male corpse for a long slow honeymoon.

Don't think it's only the heart that b-b-b-breaks.

Violent connotations - usually something the couple does together. Shows how bitter she is.

Reference to death and the fact he is just a body to her now - threatening.

Carol Ann Duffy

- Themes**
- * Love
 - * Loss
 - * Revenge

Threat to end the poem - plosives to create harsh tone. She could be either angry or breaking down emotionally at the end. Instability is emphasised. Similar to beginning of poem.