

LUCOZADE

Sound and other techniques

BED

Sound and other techniques

KEEPING ORCHIDS

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Sound Techniques

"swarm of eyes

"These doctors with their white lies." - rhyme
- idea of doctors telling half truths, medical euphemisms when mother wants to face illness head on.

"where's the big brandy, the generous gin, the Bloody Mary, the biscuit tin, the chocolate gingers, the dirty big meringue?" - alliteration of 'b' and 'y' sounds - draw attention to the list of luxuries the mum wants - shows she still has a sense of humour.

Other Techniques

"Do you think you could cheer me up with a Woman's Own?" - rhetorical question - magazine can't bring happiness - another stereotypical marker of illness.

Sound Techniques

"big blastit bed" - alliteration and expletive suggests frustration and bitterness she feels about being trapped

"loose lips" - alliteration - draws attention to her sagging skin and the negative effects of age.

Other Techniques

"year in, year oot" - repetition - emphasise that she does the same thing all the time, no variety.

"A' dinny ken whit happened. We dinny talk any mair." - short sentences - short blunt statements highlight the breakdown in their relationship.

"fray this same windae -

that's no seen a lick o' paint fir donkeys." - symbolism - the window symbolises the old lady - reflects her neglected state as she's seen very little attention or excitement.

"A'll be gone and how will she feel?" - rhetorical question to show she is contemplating time and how much she has left. Also questions the effect her death will have on her daughter.

"Am jist biding my time so am ur." - short sentence - bleak thought about holding off the inevitable - aware she is facing death soon.

"No that Am..No that Am" - repetition suggests she does want the daughter to feel guilty for poor treatment

Sound Techniques

"the whole glass carafe crashed" - assonance - creates slow motion sense of vase crashing - creates a sense of panic.

"my mother's hands are all I have" - alliteration - emphasises loss of connection - no real depth between them yet.

"Now they hand their heads" - alliteration - ambiguous - could be flowers wilting or parents feeling guilt.

"her hands, awkward and hard to hold" - alliteration emphasises the lack of warmth or connection between them - still doesn't come easy.

Other Techniques

"All the broken waters" - short sentence - connects incident to birth - disruption of calm surface - her life upturned.

"troubled hands" - transferred epithet - reflects Kay's feelings.

"the closed ones did not open out" - symbolism - the orchids refuse to open up as does her mother - still secretive.

"Twelve days later" - repetition to show it's all she's thinking about.

"Compressed. Airtight." - one word sentences - sounds bitter - suggests she thinks it's an excuse for adoption.

DIVORCE

Sound and other techniques

**MY GRANDMOTHER'S
HOUSES**

Sound and other techniques

GAP YEAR

Sound and other techniques

Sound Techniques

"You are rough and wild, I don't want to be your child." - rhyme - draws attention to the irony as the speaker is the one coming across as the wild unruly child.

Other Techniques

"so part I must, and quickly" - inversion - old fashioned form suggesting a romantic poet or Shakespeare - trying to sound serious.

"your breath smells like a camel's and gives me the hump." - pun to emphasise the humour in her anger towards her parents.

"I would be better off in an orphanage." - hyperbole - to end on a melodramatic note - idea of her rejecting parents altogether.

"I want a divorce." - short sentence - very assertive and blunt statement - has a sense of finality like she's made up her mind and won't listen to reason.

"There are parents" - repetition - ironic as there aren't really parents like this. Sounds like she is whining and trying to justify her decision.

"These parents are not you. I never chose you." - short sentences - to emphasise her grandiose tone - she's being very matter of fact and not thinking about her parents' feelings.

Sound Techniques

"my mother moans" - alliteration emphasises how disgruntled the mother is.

"a flock of woman in coats and fussy hats flapping..." - alliteration - focuses the reader on their excitement about the girl - not many young people go.

"God grabs me in Glasgow with Gran." - alliteration emphasises sporadic nature of such events - shows child connection with gran and God.

"Sit up straight." - alliteration highlights contrast between her posture and the GM's - wants more for her.

Other Techniques

"I play in the lift all the way up to 24." - language suggests the child's excitement about the sheer height.

"dating back to the War covering every present she's ever got since the War." - repetition of 'war' and 'ever' give a sense of child's awe. Also the child's perception of the length of time that's passed.

"My parents do not believe. It is down to her." - short sentences show that her parents are moving away from an older traditional way. Time moving on so girl has a connection to the GM as she's her only link to this world.

"A couple of prayers. A hymn or two. Threepenny bit in the collection hat." - short sentences create a detached tone - suggests lack of religious commitment - acting out a routine.

"You just get back to your work." - short sentence highlights GM's role - patronising statement, posh woman doesn't have much time for her.

Sound Techniques

"seeing you shy, smiling" - alliteration - emphasises that she still sees him as her innocent little boy.

"a flip and a skip ago" - rhyme - tiny moments reflected in short 'I' sound. He has grown up too quickly.

Other Techniques

"away, away in Costa Rica, Peru, Bolivia." - repetition emphasises distance between them and how strongly she feels the separation. List of exotic countries, connotations of adventure and exploration.

"And now you are not coming home until four weeks after your due date" - exasperated tone shows disappointment - mirrors being late as a baby.

"foot against my heart, elbow in my ribcage, turning, burping, awake, asleep" - list - suggests reluctance to leave her - strong bond - irony as now he is unwilling to return. Also makes it seem like these are ongoing feelings, constantly reminding her that he is present - contrast with later when he is absent.

"baby turtlebacks to the massive leatherbacks" - symbolise his growth from child to adult.

"all the lights have gone out in the hall" - symbolism - the light has left her life in Matthew's absence.

"I feel like a home-alone mother" - pun - usually applied to a child - role-reversal.

"I am wearing your large black slippers, flip-flopping" - onomatopoeia - sad pathetic sound - lacking energy - she's going back and forth - no purpose.