Havisham

Bitterness, hatred-shocks reader with swear word

**Form-dramatic monologue-character sharing about her life**

title of 'Miss' removed-defeminised, dehumanised

sole preoccupation, obsessive nature

Tenderness, affection-pet names

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.

powerful desire, reinforced-strong feeling

Juxtaposition-still loves him but hates him in equal measure

violent-anger still potent

metaphor: dark=vengeful, evil; green=jealousy, bitterness-blinded by this; pebbles=coldness, remorseless, allusion to Medusa (turn to stone)

metaphor-ropes=veins-emphasises age, haggard quality but also sense of strength from vengefulness

Negative perception of self; time passing

Isolated-negative term-alone, abandoned

Minor sentence, spat out like insult

Spinster. I stink and remember. Whole days

Onomatopoeia-over-dramatic, horrified

Birdlike shriek-dehumanised, made to seem animalistic

in bed cawing Nooooo at the wall; the dress

Personification-fearful of change

Time passing, decay

Completely alone, driven mad

yellowing, trembling if I open the wardrobe;

Verb repetition-never ending cycle

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

Mixed pronouns-disassociation-losing a grip on who she is

Murky, hard to see through-image distorted; estranged from self

Isolated so long, has become non-verbal; so frustrated she cannot speak

Assonance(repeated vowel sound)-mimics a spat out insult

Rhetorical Q-confused, or denying own responsibility?

to me? Puce curses that are sounds not words.

Sounds softer, like he has died or missing, not rejected her

Escaping into a dream

Reddy-purple-angry colour

Some nights better, the lost body over me,

Trying to present herself as experienced, not a spinster

Dehumanising, objectifying him, sexual object; repetition reinforces this

my fluent tongue in its mouth in its ear

Harsh sounds=harsh reality check

then down till I suddenly bite awake. Love’s

Bursts=moment of shock, horror, fright-joy of wedding met with shock of jilting

Reality is painful, intentionally vindictive

Wedding imagery-twisted

Juxtaposition between stanzas-passionate emotions conflicting-emotions representing her

hate behind a white veil; a red balloon bursting

Contrast-anger/ love

Horror lurking beneath

Balloon=symbol of celebration, joy

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

Violent, impulsive act-mocking the image of cutting the cake

Onomatopoeia-startling, violent

Give me a male corpse for a long slow honeymoon.

Drawing out agony of situation

Grotesque image-dead to her, but still clinging on

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

Emphasises impact of heartbreak-emotional and mental turmoil

Repetition/onomatopoeia-literal breaking down of word symbolises emotional and mental breakdown-mimics stuttering/blubbering of word-contradicts violent imagery of this stanza