

MISS HAVISHAM AUDITION PIECES

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MISS HAVISHAM adorns ESTELLA
with jewels. ESTELLA tries to detach herself.

MISS H : Are you tired of me?

E: Tired of myself.

MISS H: Liar. You are tired of me.

E: I told you I was not tired of you.
I told you I was tired of myself.

MISS H: Tired of me. When I have lavished years
of tenderness upon you.
Tired of me!

E: Years I have spent sitting beside you
learning your lessons.
Years looking up into your face
When your face was strange and
frightened me.

MISS H: Stock and stone. Cold heart.

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E: You reproach me for being cold? You?
I am what you made me.

MISS H: Thankless. Hard and thankless.

E: What would you have me thank you for?
You have brought me up to be sure.
But what would you have?
You have given me everything. But I did
not ask you to give me everything.
What would you have?

MISS H: Love.

E: You have it.

MISS H: I have not.

E: Mother by adoption, I have said I owe everything to you.
All I possess is freely yours. All you have given me,
Is at your command to have again. Beyond that, I have nothing.

MISS H: So proud. So proud!

E: Who taught me to be proud? Who praised me when I learnt the lesson?

MISS H: So hard. So hard!

E: Who taught me to be hard? Who praised me when I learnt the lesson?

MISS H: But to be proud and hard to me!
To be proud and hard to me!
Did I never give you love?
Did I never give you love that burned like fire?
And can you not return it?

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MISS HAVISHAM starts to dance.

E: She had everything. Her father loved her. But she was orphaned, Pip, while she was still young.
She was rich, Pip, and very lovely, and all alone,
Satis House was a grand place then, she told me,
Full of laughter and sunlight.

MISS H: At night the candles in the parties shone like stars.

E: One night she met a man at the Midsummer Ball.
A tall man, he was, and handsome and dark.

MISS H: We danced all night long as they do in thé stories.

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E: And when dawn came, and it was over, and the candles were tired and pale, she was still fresh and
overflowing with laughter.

MISS H: I could have danced the whole night all over again.

E: The wedding was fixed. It was to be a grand affair.

MISS H: The most beautiful wedding that ever was seen.

E: The dress was bought, the guests were invited
She was putting on the most beautiful silk gown.

MISS H: And then the letter came.

E: It was brought by one of his servants.
MISS HAVISHAM opens the letter and reads it. She lets out a terrible cry.

E: It broke off the wedding.
In terms of such cruelty
She has never shown that letter to a single living soul...

MISS H: What do I touch here?

PIP: Your heart.

MISS H: Broken!

E: She sat all day in her dress, holding the letter
And that night sent for Jagers. She had read his name in the papers.

Miss H: Jagers! Stop the clocks!

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PIP looks across at MISS HAVISHAM. ESTELLA enters.

MISS H: Why are you here?

E: I thought you had taught me what suffering was.
But I know nothing. I knew nothing.
His only care was to hit me.
Where the bruises wouldn't show.
He took all my money and he took all my
jewels And I have run from him to you.

MISS H: Daughter, believe me. I wanted to save you from what happened to me.

E: You did worse.

MISS H: Believe me.

E: You taught me to hate love You praised me for my cruelty.

MISS H: I wanted to spare you my suffering.

E: You took away my heart And instead you gave me a heart of ice.

MISS HAVISHAM I wanted to save to me,
ESTELLA Better to have left me a natural heart
Better to have left me ah bruised mario be
A heart to be broken.

MISS HAVISHAM I did what I could. Can you forgive me?

ESTELLA No.

MISS HAVISHAM Were you to write my name in the chronicles of your cold heart,
Could you take this pencil and write under my name 'I forgive her'.

ESTELLA - No!

MISS HAVISHAM Daughter, I beg you.

ESTELLA No.

MISS HAVISHAM _ Can you not find it in your heart?

ESTELLA I have no heart!

MISS HAVISHAM What have I done? What have I done! What have I done!

MISS HAVISHAM drops her lantern and is enveloped in flame.