Half-Hanged Mary

# Notes

7 pm

-Rumor that she is a witch is flying around and they’re looking for her
-Simile: like a soft bullet
-Metaphor: “I didn’t feel the aimed word hit”
- Reasons why she was hanged: blue eyes, cure for warts, lived alone, sunburnt skin, she’s poor, a farm in her own name, and finally- she is a WOMAN.
-Wit: “Whenever there’s talk of demons…handy.”

8pm

-They hadn’t planned to use the rope, it was just there. If they had time, they would’ve used an axe.
-“Up I go” means she is being raised up to be hanged.
-“Blackened apple” could be a metaphor for being bruised, feeling unimportant, feeling used. (Metaphor)
-She’s tied up with a rag in her mouth
-Metaphor- “A flag raised to salute the moon”
-The men who hanged her walk home happily
-“Says she’s wearing the men’s evil” like a glove

9pm

-The towns women came to watch
-The women feel uncomfortable watching, but still do and don’t help her
-These women are her friends; she cured one of their babies, and delivered another one’s to save her life.
-They don’t help her down, because they don’t want her “witchiness” to rub off on them.
-No one wanted to speak up, because they were afraid of the same fate.
-Society is evil at the time

10pm

-She’s having an emotional struggle with God
-She’s questioning her faith
-She’s blaming God for the predicament that she is in.

12am

-This is when she begins to feel sick
-She feels like she’s dying
-Death is talking to her telling her to give up

2am

-She’s making noises involuntarily
-She’s saying REAL Prayer is praying for your life, not getting on your knees and talking to God

3am

-She writes without pause, because she’s mimicking not having air in her lungs
-She’s also showing that she’s got 1000 thoughts a minute
-She’s repeating “born” because she’s in the opposite place in her life
-Her only crime is “not giving in” or not dying

6am

-She no longer enjoys the sunrise
-Because the sun rises, she realizes that she’s made it
-She feels like she’s hanging FOREVER.
-She’s gotten taller
-She’s feeling deaf
-She should’ve died already, so she says she’ll have two deaths in this life.

8am

-When they came to “harvest” her= when they picked her up like an object
-They aren’t allowed to kill her twice, so they have to let her go.
-She laughed at them, because she knew they couldn’t do anything to her.
-She says she wasn’t a witch before, but she beat death, so now she “is.”

Later
-She may be a little crazy, and she’s not afraid to look crazy.
-The townspeople are scared of her
-The only person who understands her is God, and she doesn’t care about anyone else