

Everything about Miss Havisham demonstrates the theme that it is better to be uncommon on the inside than on the outside. When Pip first meets Miss Havisham, he is overwhelmed by her appearance: "She was dressed in rich materials—satins, and lace, and silks—all of white..."(Dickens 53). Despite Miss Havisham's opulent outer appearance, Pip realizes over time that Miss Havisham is a sad and lonely woman who can't let go of the past. Her money, jewels, and clothing serve only to cover up the bitterness underneath. Though Pip notices the dust and lack of sunlight on his very first day at Satis House, he still yearns to be a part of Miss Havisham's world of "uncommon" wealth and social class. When Pip receives his "great expectations," the very first order of business is to remove him from his humble home and to clothe him in expensive garb. The fancy apparel covers up the country boy. For this rendering, I used various items that pop off the page in order to symbolize the importance of appearance. There is a silky dress, pearls, diamonds, and a fancy chair. The scene as a whole symbolizes the room inside of Satis House where Pip often went to play whist and to push Miss Havisham around in her chair. The deep brown and gray watercolor background shows that despite extravagant surroundings, darkness permeates every aspect of Miss Havisham's life. The paperdoll Victorian boy represents the new and improved Pip in his fancy London clothing. The clothing on the doll is too big. I did this because it's clear that Pip does not fit into his new world. When the coat on paper Pip is removed, a blacksmith's clothing is revealed symbolizing Pip's true place in the world.