

- Metaphor "pallor"

The paleness, "pallor", of the girls is compared to being a "pall", which is a piece of cloth used to cover one's coffin, obviously hinting at the absence of a funeral. Instead of a proper "pall" for the coffin, it will be the girls' paleness and horror which showers over the dead, unresting bodies of the fallen soldiers.

- Metaphor [epithet] "patient minds"

The patience that the families have whilst waiting for their rendezvous with the men who went to serve in the army is as affectionate and "tender" as the flowers at the illusionary funeral.

[Owen furthermore pushes the fact that the only funeral held for the lost soldiers is inside their families' broken and traumatized minds. The soldiers never received the farewell they rightfully deserved]

- Alliteration "stuttering", "hasty", "shrill", "shells", "shires"

This subtle alliteration, particularly when read aloud, creates a terribly haunting atmosphere, almost as if someone was creepy whispering. Owen uses this alliteration as a parallel to the horrors of shell shock, suffered by the military personnel since he too was a victim of this trauma

- Metaphor "drawing-down of blinds"

Creates a sense of something being behind the scenes for the reader. It is the suffering and mourning of the families of the losing their loved ones in the war. Perhaps, Owen is hinting at how the government was hiding the true consequences of war and sugarcoating it via propaganda.

Preview from Notesale.co.uk
Page 3 of 3

Tone

- Angry
- Melancholic
- Oratorical - lots of pauses and rhetorical questions create silence where the listeners are practically forced to reflect on the horrors of war and the need to commemorate the lost soldiers