

Duchess of Malfi

Textual evidence

"but of your brothers"

"Do not think of them"

A05

Context

As a manifestation of Rossetti's Christian faith in redemption, for example. It has also been suggested that Rossetti was tempted to run away with a married man and was prevented from doing so by her sister, and that this poem is her thanks to her sister for saving her from doing something foolish, though this reading is very speculative and not based on any evidence.

'Goblin Market' has also been read in a socio-historical context, looking at the poem's moral status as a warning against succumbing to temptation for the women of the Highgate Penitentiary for Fallen Women, where Rossetti volunteered.

Goblin Market

Textual evidence

"curious Laura chose to linger"

"tore her gown and soiled her stockings"

Context

Adam and Eve - women weren't meant to be un-escorted
Highgate Penitentiary for Fallen Women where Christina Rossetti volunteered. Often argued that this is where her poem was based. She was a 'sister' at this penitentiary.

3.

The Intense desires of Maude Clare and Thomas have led to rejection and social exclusion for her. Julia's intense desire for Bosola leads, indirectly to her death

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Textual evidence

Julia "which of my women 'twas you hired, to put love-powder into my drink"

Only confronts Cardinal in first place because Bosola asks her to do

A03

A05