

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Characters in order of appearance

Lord Henry Wootton - Portrayed in his 30s & 50s
A nobleman and a close friend of Basil Hallward.
With friends like Lord Henry, who needs enemies? This hedonistic, selfish aristocrat has the whole world at his fingertips, and, rather than doing something good for humanity, he simply goes about his business in a totally self-indulgent manner. Nothing seems to have any meaning for Lord Henry except his own pleasure.

Basil Hallward - Portrayed in his 30s & 50s
An artist, and a friend of Lord Henry.
Basil is an eternal idealist who truly believes in the innate goodness of mankind. What he doesn't realize is that he's a good man living in a bad world. He continues to have faith in the possibility of redemption and he's a firm believer in high-minded, pure values like Beauty, Truth, and Love. The problem is, he tends to confuse these things; because Dorian continues to be beautiful, Basil optimistically thinks that he also continues to be truthful and loving.

Dorian Gray - Portrayed age c25
A radiantly handsome, impressionable, and wealthy young gentleman, whose portrait the artist Basil Hallward paints.
Dorian Gray is so many opposites at once that it is hard to understand them all. He's good, he's bad; he's beautiful, he's hideous; he's perfect, he's terribly flawed.

Lady Agatha - Portrayed age 50-60
Lord Henry's aunt. *Dorian helps her with her charity work in the London East End slums.*

Duchess of Harley - Portrayed age 40-60
Guest of Lady Agatha, pleasant, well-liked, and of ample proportions.

Mr. Isaacs - Older, any age
The flamboyant owner of the theatre where Sibyl Vane acts. *Despite his age he also plays Romeo to Sibyl's Juliet.*

Sibyl Vane - Portrayed age 20-25
A poor, beautiful, and talented actress with whom Dorian falls in love.
Sibyl Vane is too good for her own good. She's beautiful, amazingly talented, and totally innocent—which makes her a magnet for Dorian. Once real life intervenes, it proves to be too much for poor Sibyl to handle.

Lady Henry Wootton (Victoria) - Portrayed 25-30
Lord Henry's wife, a romantic woman. *Wilde describes her as trying to look picturesque but succeeding only in looking untidy.*

Mrs. Vane - Portrayed age 40-45
Sibyl and James' mother. *Mrs. Vane is a faded actress who has consigned herself and her daughter to a tawdry theatre company, the owner of which has helped her to pay her debts.*

James Vane - Portrayed in his 20s and 40s
Sibyl's brother. *James Vane is an honourable man. He adores his sister, Sibyl, and not entirely in a way a brother should. He leaves for Australia to escape his feelings and his jealousy means he swears to kill Dorian who hurt her.*

Victor - Any age
Dorian's manservant.

Mrs. Leaf - Older, any age
Dorian's housekeeper.

Mr. Hubbard - Any age
The frame-shop owner.

Alan Campbell - Portrayed age 25-30 and 45-50
A scientist and once an intimate friend of Dorian.
We see an early encounter between them, when Alan is identified as a cross-dresser, which Dorian later blackmails him with, to make him dispose of Basil Hallwood's body.

Opium Dealer - Any sex, any age
The seller in the Opium Den who gives Dorian away to James Vane as "Prince Charming" the man who had caused his sister's suicide.

Adrian Singleton - Portrayed aged 25-45 and 45-65
A pathetic man whom Dorian had a hand in financially ruining through gambling, which leads him into a life of drugs and despair.

Duchess of Monmouth - Portrayed age 20-35
A pretty, bored young noblewoman who flirts with Dorian at his country estate.

Hetty Merton - Portrayed aged 20-25
A country girl that Dorian spares when he decides to be good.

Head Gamekeeper - 40+
In charge of the Shooting Party.

Ensemble
Playing various Servants, Londoners, Theatregoers, party and house guests etc.