

= Faye Morton =

Faye Lindsey Byrne ( née Morton , previously Michaels , Hewson , Wilson ) is a fictional character from the BBC medical drama Holby City , portrayed by actress Patsy Kensit . The character first appeared on @-@ screen on 30 January 2007 in the episode " Into the Dark " - series nine , episode 17 of the program . Kensit had made a former unrelated guest appearance on Holby City 's sister show Casualty in 2001 .

Faye is a Ward Sister at Holby General , with a mysterious past including two dead husbands and a disabled son . Her storylines have seen her marry registrar Joseph Byrne ( Luke Roberts ) , and develop feelings for consultant Linden Cullen ( Duncan Pow ) following the death of her son . Her introductory storyline , shot on location in Dubai , in which she kills her third husband and leaves for Holby , proved so popular that Kensit was shortlisted " Best Actress " in the 2007 TV Quick and TV Choice Awards for her portrayal of the character within three months of arriving on the show . However , the dramaticism of the character 's storylines and the manner in which they reflect upon real NHS nurses has attracted criticism . Kensit left the show on 28 December 2010 in the episode " Snow Queens " - series thirteen , episode 11

= = Development = =

= = = Creation = = =

Early publicity for the character gave her name as Eliza Clark . This was ultimately changed to Faye Morton , and although Faye did not first appear on @-@ screen until January 2007 , the announcement that Patsy Kensit had been cast in the role was made on 14 December 2005 . Holby City 's executive producer Richard Stokes and series producer Emma Turner spoke of their delight at Kensit 's casting , describing her as " a talented and popular actress who lights up the screen . " Kensit took the role in Holby City after two years of working on the ITV soap opera Emmerdale , commenting that she was " thrilled " to be offered the part , and was looking forward to working in London . Having formerly worked in Yorkshire to film Emmerdale , working in London reduced the actress ' daily commute to 45 minutes . Television critic Jim Shelley noted that Kensit 's casting in the role followed a trend of Holby City producers for hiring established actors , including comedian Adrian Edmondson and Jesus of Nazareth star Robert Powell .

In preparation for the role , Kensit spent three days shadowing a real nurse , and observed open heart surgery being performed as research . She commented on the experience : " I wanted to throw up . First of all I stood in the corner but in the end I couldn 't get close enough ... nurses are incredible women . They 're doing this job for next to nothing and do it with such love and care ... I couldn 't do it , I 'd get too emotionally involved , I don 't think I could cope . " In 2001 , Kensit had made a guest appearance in series 16 of Holby City 's sister show Casualty , appearing as a domestic abuse victim and giving what TV critic Ian Hyland deemed " a convincing performance " . Prior to her move into television roles , Kensit had predominantly worked in films , but explained upon joining the cast of Holby City : " Making films isn 't for me any more because I 'm an old girl in that world ... I 've been very lucky , this is something I grew up doing , in television there 's so much satisfaction ... I 'll stay as long as they want me , I feel like I 've come back home . "

= = = Personality and relationships = = =

Initial publicity for the character billed her as " a nurse who has more than a few secrets to hide and an attitude that cannot fail to ruffle the feathers of her colleagues . " The Daily Express have described her as " Gregarious ... likes a gossip , but she 's emotionally vulnerable " , while Holby City actress Tina Hobley has compared Faye to her own character , Chrissie Williams , explaining that " Faye is a quieter character all round who will do anything for an easy life , whereas Chrissie likes to stir up a bit of drama . I think she sees Faye as a goody two shoes . "

In the flashback episode " What Lies Beneath " , exploring Faye 's decision to move to Holby , she is seen to fight with her husband James , then later step over his dead body on the stairs . Kensit explained : " there 's a scuffle and he pins her against the wall and practically tries to rape her . He ends up dead . It 's the way she deals with it ? she coolly steps over his body and leaves . It turns out similar things have happened before . " Shortly after arriving in Holby , the character began a relationship with cardiothoracic registrar Sam Strachan ( Tom Chambers ) . The situation soon escalated into a love triangle , with Sam reigniting his former relationship with Faye 's colleague , Matron Chrissie Williams . Kensit said of the relationship in August 2007 , as the storyline was ongoing : " For Faye , Sam is not Mr Right , simply Mr Right Now . But Faye is not as sweet as she looks - there 's a streak of toughness there ... It 's all going to get very messy ! " Upon discovering Sam 's infidelity , the character terminated their relationship , and became involved with his colleague Joseph Byrne .

In terms of friendships , Faye is close to Ward Sister Kyla Tyson ( Rakie Ayola ) . Though the BBC describe Faye and Chrissie as rivals , Hobley has commented : " I 'd like there to be more development with Chrissie and Faye 's relationship as they 've only really had Sam as a common interest up until now . I just hope its friendship that develops , because I can 't bear all that bitchy cat @-@ fighting stuff . "

= = Storylines = =

Faye arrives at Holby General in the episode " Into the Dark " , requesting that registrars Joseph Byrne and Jac Naylor ( Rosie Marcel ) help her gain employment as a Bank Nurse . During her first few months at the hospital , Faye remains close to Joseph , but does not get on well with Jac , who she speaks to sternly about her close relationship with Joseph 's father , Lord Byrne ( Ronald Pickup ) . In the episode " What Lies Beneath " , flashbacks show the trio 's first meeting in Dubai . Faye 's husband James reveals to her that he has lost her life savings . The pair fight , and James ends up dead at the bottom of their stairs . Faye leaves him , and returns to England with Joseph and Jac . Faye is questioned by the police about James ' death but is not charged .

Faye begins a friendship with Ward Sister Kyla Tyson , and supports her through her domestic abuse ordeal at the hands of her husband , his subsequent death , and the loss of her son to foster care . She resists the advances of hospital lothario Sam Strachan , and impresses general surgical consultant Dan Clifford ( Peter Wingfield ) with her approach to patient care - leading to an on the spot promotion after a clash with Thandie Abebe ( Ginny Holder ) in the episode " Leap of Faith " .

Faye begins dating Sam , unaware that he is cheating on her with Ward Sister Chrissie Williams . She ends their relationship when she discovers his infidelity and turns her attention to Joseph , who had tried to warn her about Sam 's indiscretion . She supports Joseph when he is tormented by Jac about the relationship she had had with his father prior to his death . When STI clinician Tim attacks staff members with a crossbow , Faye is shot in the back , but makes a full recovery . She reveals to Joseph that she was formerly married to a much older man named Donald , who left her a substantial amount of money after his death from cancer . She is investigated by the police , who find it suspicious that she has been twice widowed . Her stepson , Carl Hewson , blackmails her for money , but is later attacked by loan sharks and dies in theatre .

Following a fight with Joseph , Faye disappears to South Africa . Joseph and consultant Linden Cullen travel there to find her , and discover that Faye has a young son , Archie , who has Lowe syndrome . He has been kidnapped by his father , Faye 's first husband Lucas , and Joseph is forced to operate on him to save his life . Faye and Joseph go on to become engaged , and marry at his family home . When Archie 's nurse Lauren accidentally administers him the wrong drug , he dies . Faye is arrested for his murder when post @-@ mortem results prove inconclusive , and is suspended from work . She is acquitted when Lauren confesses , and fights with the nurse , who attempts suicide . Faye is able to make her peace with Lauren , but is unable to fully forgive her . In the aftermath of Archie 's death , Faye and Joseph grow apart , and she develops romantic feelings for Linden .

Faye and Joseph separate , and she and Linden begin a relationship . Faye discovers that she is

pregnant with Joseph 's baby , but Linden promises to support her and they become briefly engaged . Increasingly concerned that Faye may be a pathological liar , Linden terminates their engagement . Faye is later attacked by a heroin @-@ addicted patient , and when Linden attempts to defend her , he is hit in the head with a glass bottle and dies . Faye suffers a breakdown in the aftermath of Linden 's death , and is admitted to a psychiatric unit . She self @-@ harms , and refuses to leave the unit when she goes into labour , until Jac assures her that Joseph does not intend to take their child away from her . Faye delivers a boy by Caesarean . She initially fails to bond with him , but when Joseph puts their divorce proceedings on hold , she makes an effort and names him Harry , after Joseph 's deceased younger brother . Despite Joseph 's opposition , she insists on returning to the psychiatric unit .

Faye left her job on 28 December 2010 and went to live in France , leaving her son , Harry , in the care of Joseph .

= = Reception = =

Within four months of first appearing in Holby City , Kensit was nominated for the " Best Actress " award at the 2007 TV Quick and TV Choice Awards for her portrayal of Faye . The character 's introductory episode , " Into the Dark " drew a high of 7 million viewers , while " What Lies Beneath " , the flashback episode in which the character was seen to kill her husband in Dubai drew ratings of 6 @.@ 32 million . The character 's introduction to the series was highly publicised in the media , including a front cover and inside spread featuring Kensit discussing her new role in the week 's edition of the Radio Times . The Liverpool Echo selected the character 's introductory episode as a televisual ' Pick of the Day ' , The Mirror 's TV critic Jim Shelley selected her arrival as a highlight of the week , and Kevin O 'Sullivan of the Sunday Mirror described her debut as " sensational " .

Faye has continued to generate high publicity for the series , with the 11 August 2007 edition of Total TV Guide featuring Kensit , Hobley and Chambers on its front cover , appearing in character to promote their love triangle storyline , and the 1 September 2007 Daily Express television supplement again featuring Kensit and Hobley on its cover , with an inside feature on the same storyline . It was reported on 19 August 2007 that Kensit 's casting had " boosted the series ' appeal " to such an extent that for the first time , a Holby City calendar had been commissioned . The report quoted a series insider as stating : " Patsy has really set the show off this year , and what better way to thank the dedicated fans ? " .

The character was heavily criticised in the July 2007 edition of the Nursing and Midwifery Council magazine . The publication discussed the topic of nurses in popular culture , and the negative impression of the nursing profession conveyed by fictional nurses . With a promotional image of Kensit as Faye adorning the front cover , the magazine asserted :

This criticism was echoed by Shelley , who , commenting on an interview Kensit had given to publicise the show and her role with Jonathan Ross , suggested that " reality " was not a term that could be applied to Holby City 's portrayal of nursing .

In July 2009 , Conservative Party strategists identified " Holby City woman " as a key voter demographic who may help the party win the 2010 General Election . The " Holby City woman " archetype is modelled on Faye , a female voter in her 30s or 40s , employed in a clinical or clerical position or some other public sector job . She is a swing voter in General Elections , who has voted for the Labour Party in previous elections , though her identification with the Labour Party is not strong . Jonathan Oliver for The Times noted that " Faye Morton , the Holby City staff nurse played by Patsy Kensit is just the sort of person that Cameron might now hope to recruit " .