

## reasons for smoking

i.  
to preoccupy the mouth  
in the presence of men

ii.  
a burning  
tip is a  
weapon

iii.  
to still the anxiety  
in my chest

iv.  
a pallet  
for my lips to stain

v.  
a way to be discreet  
in kissing my fingers

vi.  
an  
excuse to  
leave

vii.  
my own bones  
burning

watch their  
smoke pour from  
my mouth