

Clodagh

How did you hear?

Braddon

What?

Clodagh

How did you hear 'bout Annie?

Braddon

Dolan. Came 'round to tell me after lunch.

Clodagh

What did he say?

Braddon

Why?

Clodagh

I want to know what they told you.

Braddon

What did they tell you?

Clodagh

Mrs. O'Sullivan told us the day after. What did they tell you?

Braddon

What did she say?

Clodagh

Why won't you answer the question?

Braddon

Because ... I ... I said what happened.

Clodagh

No, you didn't.

Braddon

... I ... don't remember.

Clodagh

Someone tells you Annie's dead and you can't remember?

Braddon

Someone told me the love of my life, the woman I was 'bout ta marry was dead. Nothin' else seemed to matter after that. I know tis a wake and all but everyone is lookin' for a fight and I don't have it in me to give.

Clodagh

You had it in ya to give to Annie.

Braddon

What?

Clodagh

I know you didn't want her to work at Alexandra College.

Braddon

A wife shouldn't be workin' after marriage. She wanted children.

Clodagh

And so the revolutionary man, Braddon Herron, took it upon himself to decide that that was the tradition he was goin' ta uphold.

Braddon

That has nothin' to do with Annie and I.

Clodagh

No? She loved teaching. Did you know that? Did you know she was good at it? Do you even know what she taught? Tell me one thing she taught Braddon.

Braddon

Don't tell me what I should know 'bout my wife.

Clodagh

You were never married. And if ya had, you would have broken her heart. Tellin' her to quit teaching.

Braddon

I know what would have been best for Annie and she couldn't be a mother and a teacher. Who would have raised the kids.

Clodagh

Why couldn't you do it revolutionary man?

Braddon

Would ya stop callin' me

Clodagh

Why couldn't you do it Braddon?

Braddon

Because I work.

Clodagh

There it is. Ya never viewed her job as work.

Braddon

I'm supposed ta take care of my family. Me. Not my wife.

Clodagh

Not even if she loved it.

Braddon

She wanted to be married.

Clodagh

And couldn't do both?

Braddon

She wanted ...

Clodagh

I heard ya. No need repeatin' yerself. Just seems funny that someone who screams and yells 'bout freedom can't extend it to his own wife.

Braddon

How dare you.

Clodagh

I dare because Annie can't.

Braddon

I don't know what you think you know but I loved Annie Grady and we were goin' ta marry. And that was what was goin' ta make her happy. Her wedding, outside, and by God's grace it was goin' ta be a beautiful day.

Braddon exits before Clodagh can say anything.

Braddon exits to Róisín's Bedroom

Clodagh

... loved ...