**CHAPTER 3:**

Milkman: he asked questions, but not real ones. ‘Rhetorical questions’: the white van? He asked a question about the maybe-boyfriend. Maybe-boyfriend became young-boy for the Milkman.

Protagonist: she talked/answered to the milkman, she lied and she called maybe-boyfriend, boyfriend.

Topic of political corruption.

‘This side of the road’, ‘that side of the road’, ‘over the water’ and ‘over the border’.

The protagonist is talks about the attacks with bombs from their people.

The Old renounces were the resistance and because of fighting many ended up dead or interned.

The Milkman was a renouncer (but she was not sure).

Somebody McSomebody: he was a fanatic of the renouncers. He threatened the protagonist after the milkman’s death ‘he’d been in the throes of considering that he was some top-drawer renouncer-of-the-state himself’. Same age of the protagonist. With 17, he tried to flirt with the protagonist- His reaction was ‘we will follow you’. He referred to himself by the first person of plural. Also, he was a teller of untruths.

Ivor?

No one here, on ‘my side of the road’, on ‘this side of the water’, acknowledged James Bond. James Bond: nation-defining, ‘over the water’ patriotism and, if you were from ‘our side of the water’ as well as ‘our side of the road’ and you did watch James Bond.

Renouncers were good in her district until some of them became gangster style of renouncers.

Johns and Marys: people who were trying to live as ordinarily as the political problems allowed them.

Paramilitaries = James Bond for the people.

Her mother believed the protagonist was of that groupies that considered paramilitaries to be like James Bond.

The groupies wanted to know were the protagonist was in the hierarchy. For this, the made compliments of her hair, cheekbones (comparing her with some film noir actresses). ‘They were like wee girls’, ‘female fatale’.

Somebody McSomebody: changed his words saying it was a natural way of expressing his feelings. He confesed her he was a renouncer-of-the-state. “His father and his eldest sister and his eldest brother – until their deaths – all had been renouncers”. His family: 2 parent 12 siblings. Father + Oldest sister + Oldest brother: died in renouncer’s activity. Second oldest male: died crossing the road. Fourth boy: died committing suicide accusing Russia and America as the reason. Family alive: her mother with psychological problems, 6 sisters and a 3 years old boy + him.

2 of the brothers (second and fourth brothers) from the protagonist were renouncers. She knew it on the funeral of one of them as he had the flag ‘from over the border’.

Somebody McSomebody is more psychological dangerous (menacing and stalking) that the Milkman.

The Milkman was coordinated with 4 more men. The passed next to her.

She was looking for a place for the cat’s head. It had to be a green and non-depressing place. She found an actual milkman.

Real Milkman: This milkman did not like anyone, so he was beyond-the-pales. “he came back from that country ‘over the water’ where his brother had been dying and realised something was wrong in his house”. When he came back, he found riffles dug into his garden and more inside his house. The renouncers-of-the-states dug his garden.

beyond-the-pales: marginados: out-of-class.

The mother of the nuclear boy is also the mother of Somebody McSomebody, so they are brothers.

People from beyond-the-pale: tablets girl, then her disconcerting shiny sister, then poor nuclear boy and the heavy-handed, preachy issue women.

The real milkman is: “‘How can we get this done?’ manner, that same manner of maybe-boyfriend, also of teacher, not the prevalent ‘What’s the point, nothing is of use, it’s not gonna make any difference is it?’”.

New dead from the Somebody McSomedy’s family: “wee tot, their youngest, fell from their upstairs back bedroom window”.

The real milkman said that the wee sister were specials: “They went to school. They read their books. They had discussions and forums and compendia and symposia and comparing and contrasting and exchanges of ideas and what they referred to too, as extra-curricular activities”. ‘*Educationese or educationalese’*.

Family from the protagonista: “father dying and your second brother dying and your second sister— well, you know what happened with your sister. Then there’s your other brother, the fourth one who— but you know what happened with him as well”.

The word “feminist” could not be used in the district: ‘The word ‘feminist’ was beyond-the-pale’. There was a talk, and one woman for the protagonist went, and know they have their own group compound by 7. *International women’s headquarters.*

**CHAPTER 4:**

The protagonist has the feeling that she is been follow all the time by the Milkman “everything was proof of how the milkman had got in”. ‘Memory lapse moments’

“He tried to touch me then, but I pulled away, then stepped away, right away, from him. Before the milkman, maybe-boyfriend’s touch, those fingers, his hands, had been the best, the most, the absolute of lovely. But now, since the milkman, any part of maybe-boyfriend coming towards me brought up in me mounting bouts of revulsion and a feeling that I might at any moment be sick. He was repulsing me, my own maybe-boyfriend was repulsing me, and even though I did not want to be repulsed and was trying my best not to become aware I was repulsed, I’d find myself blaming him for feeling it and for not being able to reason myself out of it”.

**CHAPTER 5:**

Ivor: at first invented by the protagonist, now she does not if is real or not. But described as “*So did that other friend, the one purportedly from maybe-boyfriend’s work, who lived ‘over the road’, meaning maybe-boyfriend’s colleague from the opposite religion*”.

Longest friend: she is her friend since primary school. She used to love her “and loved still what I knew from her”. “Her entire family had been killed in the political problems so far”. “Politically she kept her eyes and ears open”. 3 more meetings with her: “One was at her wedding in the countryside four months on where I was the only one – bar the holy man officiating – not wearing dark glasses” “Then I met her a year after her wedding, this time at the funeral of her husband” “Three months on from that I went to her own funeral when they buried her with her husband”. She died.

First-brother-in-law started the rumours about her.

Tablet girls poisoned the protagonist: “that poor girl who’s really a woman is getting worse’”.

The poisoner tablet girls is dead when the protagonist starts to feel better from the poisoning.

**CHAPTER 6:**

Brother-in-law was worried because the protagonist was no longer going with him for the running.

Maybe-boyfriend called her to the telephone of her home. The protagonist did not like technology.

The REAL milkman was shot by the state-killer-squad. He was at the hospital. The mother went to visit him.

Peggy: a friend from the mother who became a holy-woman (nun). Not a friend. She was a competitor for the Real Milkman’s love.

The name of the tablet girl poisoned: Susannah Eleanor Lizabetta Effie.

The good tablet girl was the ex of the third brother from the protagonist.

Fourth brother was like a brother, but he was actually the best friend of the fourth brother.

The protagonist speaks by the phone with maybe-boyfriend.