

Eilean Ni Chuilleanain – Notes Template

L. Daly.

**Things to note (for Introduction)** – Collapses the distance between past and present; contrasts stillness and motion and life and death. Poetry can be opaque and enigmatic yet engaging. Her poems are full of aspects of folk tales which gives them both an ambiguity and a timelessness. Importantly, she writes from a feminist perspective, and this imbues a lot of her work.

<u>Poem</u> <u>(Structure/ historical context)</u>	<u>Themes</u>	<u>Key Language and Imagery</u> <u>(Including sound techniques and their effect)</u>	<u>Tone</u>	<u>Contrast</u> <u>with/similarities</u> <u>to...</u> <u>(coherence mark)</u>
<p><b>Poem 1</b> <b>'Translations'</b></p> <p>(written for the reburial of the women exhumed from a mass grave found in a Magdelene laundry)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving a voice to women whose voices were stifled and silenced for so long.</li> <li>• Addressing an issue of national shame for cathartic and healing purposes; trying to achieve a sense of reparation.</li> <li>• To illuminate the oppression of innocent women at the hands of religious institutions and the state.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The soil frayed and sifted evens the score-' use of the verb 'frayed' here evoking images of the clothes the women toiled with over the years as they are exhumed and seek long overdue justice.</li> <li>• 'White light blinded and bleached out/the high relief of a glance' here the harsh alliterative 'b' reflects the harsh lives within the laundries where the sins were 'bleached' out through labour.</li> <li>• 'one voice/had begun, rising about the shuffle and hum' the tone shifts in this image as the voices of the women rise above the ineffective mumbling of the church and politicians.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Angry Bitter Admonishing</p>	<p><b><u>Contrast:</u></b> 'Street' a completely contrasting image of a woman portrayed; a woman with agency and power and a touch of masculinity and danger about her.</p> <p><b><u>Similarities:</u></b> 'Kilcash' a translation from an Irish poem, translating and interpreting Irish history important to her.</p>
<p><u>Poem 2</u></p>				

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**Poem 3**

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**Poem 4**

**Poem 5**

**Poem 6**

