

Group Three 21.3.2024 Excerpt from Tobin's Brooklyn - Christmas

NB 1) I am trying to vary more demanding and less demanding texts, hoping that they are all equally stimulating.

- 5 NB 2) Website alisonpask.de for log and homework (Click on Group Three and if you get German, click on the Union Jack)

How big is a turkey that takes six hours in the oven?

- 10 Traditionally, what are your contributions to the main Christmas meal?

Have you ever been to a non-family large gathering at Christmas?

- 15 When do you (ever) eat with a larger group of people? (I would like to add that sometimes eating at a Domäne Markt almost feels like eating 'with' people you don't know.)

In US there are church (and other?) pot luck meals where everybody brings something but it is chance of there are five noodle salads and no potato. Here?

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Where does something vaguely similar to this excerpt (Brooklyn) happen in Berlin?

Do you have any comments on what is eaten at this meal? (We were talking about 'tea'. This is 'dinner'.) NB Also ham, soup, stout. Trifle. Paper hats :-)

- 25 How it is organized and served? (l. 365 miracle)

They all seem to be Irish. This is commented on and develops as the text proceeds. ('could have been...anywhere in Ireland' l 403) Young people missing. Where you come from in Ireland is something to joke about.

- 30 The helpers. (The Miss Murphys with no home to go to - they say.)

The text:

- 35 - to what extent (*inwiefern*) do you recognize the Eilis of the first passage? This is her first Christmas in Brooklyn and she is pretty homesick. (Father Flood has helped her with this.)

- who is the man who sings? The experience of somebody seeming to come to life/become younger while performing.

- 40 - the men 345 resp 352 ff; 'no rules' etc 376ff. F F's attitude.

Next time in two weeks (April 4th) . Info re excerpt from 'This other Eden'. Also the text for the following week (11th - READ ALOUD) .