

DEAD IRISH (Eric C) 1 - 1

SHE

Don't you think it's time we talked about Michael? (Beat) Don't. Don't do that.

HE

What? I'm not doing anything.

SHE

You're pulling away from me again.

HE

Maybe you're right. Maybe I am.

SHE

Why? Because there's no point now? Too much has happened? Is what we're doing here just social talking, catching up on each other?

HE

All what?

SHE

Dinner. The clever repartee. The idle chitchat.

HE

Oh come on, Jane. Don't do this.

SHE

No, you come on. Knowing what somebody's doing on a daily basis isn't knowing them, who they are, how they're feeling..

HE

Maybe it's enough. Perhaps it's best that way.

DEAD IRISH 1 - 2

SHE

Well, then I wish you hadn't called me.
[Pause] It wasn't your fault you know.
[Pause] Have you ever talked about it to anyone? Do you ever think about it even?

HE

Damn it, there's never a time when I don't think about it! Don't you understand?!
[Pause] It doesn't matter. I'm sorry I yelled at you.

SHE

It doesn't matter? You think yelling at me's the problem? I'd rather have you yell at me any day than just disappear.

HE

Nothing's going to bring him back. Nothing can change that moment and I see it every day. You didn't kill him, Jane. I did.

SHE

You didn't! You weren't to blame. He'd never stood up before. How could you have known?

HE

I should have known! I left the sides on the crib too low and I should have known better. If I'd only thought... then he wouldn't have fallen out. Wouldn't have hit his head.... I should have known.

DEAD IRISH 1 - 3

SHE

It's not your fault. You couldn't have known.
(Pause) It's over now. It's over a long time.
How long are you going to suffer for it? It was
an accident. Accident's happen. It wasn't
anybody's fault.

HE

Every time I looked at you I blamed myself all
over again. I couldn't stand seeing you suffer
for what I put you through. For what I put
you both through.

SHE

You didn't put me through it. You didn't
cause it. Look at me now.... I'm telling you I
never blamed you. It could so easily have
been me. I should have known, too. All the
books said he was getting ready to stand up,
and I never thought of it. (Pause) The worst
thing of all was that I lost both of you in one
fell swoop. And that's what hurts, and it's
not fair.

HE

I'm sorry Jane, I just couldn't face you. I'm
so sorry.

SHE

I know.