

Dubliners

James Joyce

Why does Eveline's body become passive at the exact moment she must act?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Eveline cannot move
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION Eveline

START All the seas of the world tumbled about her heart END Her eyes gave him no sign of love or farewell or recognition.

PASSAGE ID	sec-dub-02
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THE MOVE

Read inaction as the climax of competing obligations

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Eveline has mentally rehearsed leaving, yet at the departure point her body freezes. Competing duties—to Frank, family, memory, fear, promise, and home—reach a climax not in a speech but in inability to move.

MARK

Underline the reasons Eveline has for leaving. Circle the forces pulling her back. Star the physical descriptions of paralysis at the moment action is required.

NOTICE

- What has Eveline decided intellectually before reaching the station?
- Which obligations or fears return when the decision must become physical action?

- How does inaction function as a choice even when Eveline feels unable to choose?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Eveline's body become passive at the exact moment she must act? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Eveline's body become passive at the exact moment she must act? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Eveline's body becomes passive because all the competing obligations she has rehearsed—home, promise, fear, family, Frank—collapse into one moment where decision must become action. Inaction is the physical form of unresolved conflict.
EVIDENCE	Use reasons for leaving, forces pulling her back, and descriptions of clinging, paralysis, or inability to respond.
WATCH FOR	Do not say she simply changes her mind. The scene presents a failure or refusal of action more complicated than a new verbal decision.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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Why does Eveline's body become passive at the exact moment she must act?

START ANCHOR	All the seas of the world tumbled about her heart
END ANCHOR	Her eyes gave him no sign of love or farewell or recognition.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline the reasons Eveline has for leaving. Circle the forces pulling her back. Star the physical descriptions of paralysis at the moment action is required.
2. NOTICE - What has Eveline decided intellectually before reaching the station? Which obligations or fears return when the decision must become physical action? How does inaction function as a choice even when Eveline feels unable to choose?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Eveline's body become passive at the exact moment she must act?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.