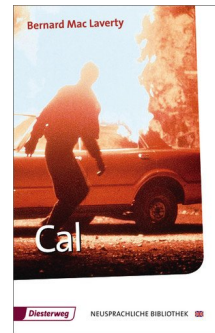


## Cal

### Facts:

- written by Bernard Mac Lavery in 1983
- story takes place in Northern Ireland (Ulster) near Belfast
- price: 9,95€
- pages: 135



### Bernard Mac Lavery:

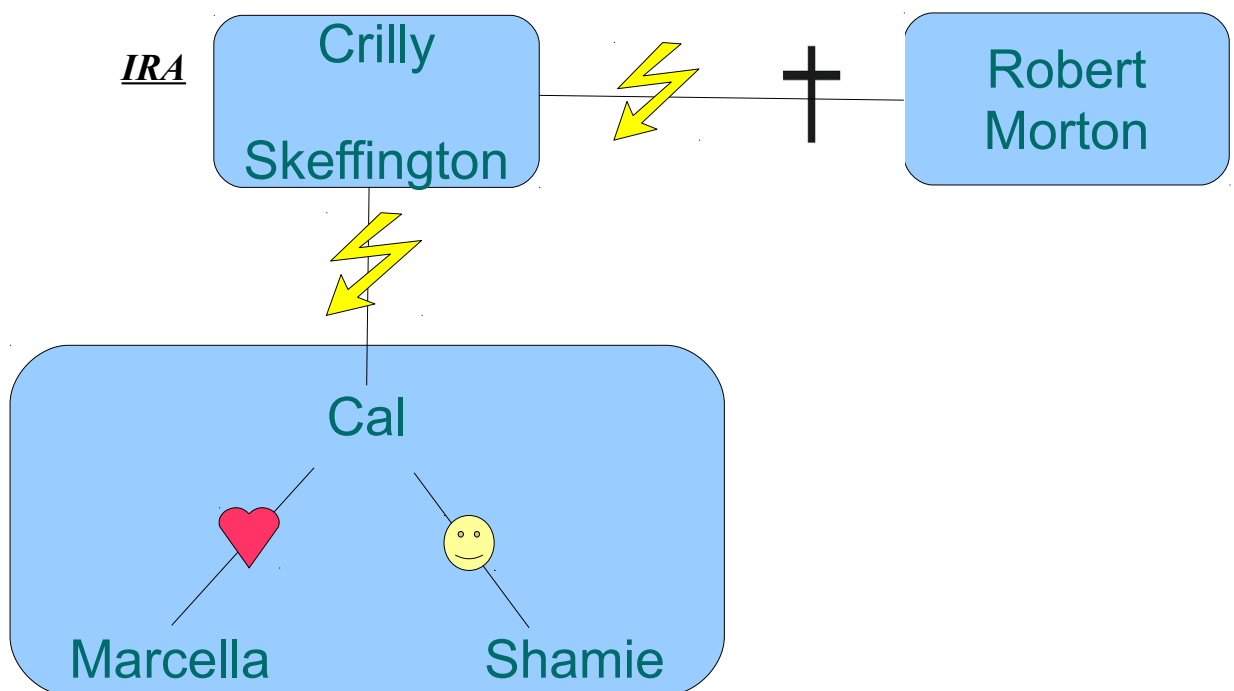
- born in Belfast (Northern Ireland) in 1942
- studied English Literature
- English teacher in Glasgow and Edinburgh until 1981
- works: Lamb (1980), Cal (1983), Grace Notes (1997)



### Main Characters:

#### Catholics:

#### Protestants:



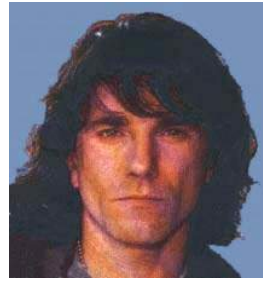
### Summary:

The young Irishman Cal McCluskey and his father are the last remaining Catholics in a working-class protestant neighbourhood. Not only is Cal a victim of the troubles in Northern Ireland, he is becoming a perpetrator himself: against his will and in spite of his conscience, he is being dragged into the bloody conflict which is destroying the lives and futures of those around him.

Through Cal's fate, we experience the hopelessness of an entire region, and witness the brutal Northern Irish circumstances which leave no way out, even for those who want peace.

### **Characterization of Cal:**

- long hair
- unhappy, emotional
- self-hatred, depressed
- honest
- has no real friends
- development from murderer to opponent of the separatist Movement IRA



### **Topic: Northern Ireland conflict**

#### **- Irish-English problem:**

- Ireland's attempt to secure independence from Britain
- 1969/70 militant fights between the IRA and the British Forces started
- Ceasefire Declaration on August 31<sup>st</sup> 1994 by the IRA



#### **- Social and economic inequalities:**

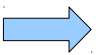
- more Catholics are unemployed than Protestants
- not improved by the Administrative reforms since 1969

#### **- Riots between Catholics and Protestants:**

- IRA as defenders of the Northern Catholic minority fights against the Protestants
- 1974 power-sharing executive between Catholics and Protestants was formed and failed through a Protestant workers' strike



- ***Northern Ireland is still dependent from Britain***
- ***Catholics and Protestants are still fighting***



- ***Southern Ireland is independent from Britain (Republic of Ireland)***
- ***there are more Catholics than Protestants***