

CONTEXT:

RICHARD is the vicar of a small town where everyone knows everything about everybody.

ELSA was an old lady renowned in town for being short tempered, rude, slightly racist and a bit of a tramp.

Elsa passed away suddenly three days ago and her son FRANK has come back from America, where he lives, to take care of the funeral.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Richard is arranging some bibles while they talk.

FRANK

I know that mother wasn't a strong believer, but I would really appreciate it if you could celebrate the funeral, Father.

RICHARD

It would be my honour.

FRANK

Thank you so much. It means a lot to me that someone who knew her would do it.

RICHARD

I don't know if I knew her that well, to be honest...

FRANK

(not listening)

I'm sorry it's all so rushed, I need to head back to the States on Friday.

RICHARD

That's alright.

FRANK

I'd like you to mention her strong morals.

RICHARD

Strong morals?

FRANK

When she was young, for example, even though she was very popular, she waited to be wed before giving herself to a man.

Richard stares at Frank, barely concealing his surprise.

RICHARD
Yeah... I think I could mention
that...

FRANK
I'd also like people to share some
memories of her, if possible.

RICHARD
I'm not sure that would be a good
idea.

FRANK
Why not?

RICHARD
Oh, you know... we have some jokers
in our parish... they might come up
with some unsavoury stories...

FRANK
I doubt anything mother did could
ever shock me.

RICHARD
You'd be surprised...

FRANK
(not listening)
I know that she was part of some
clubs.

RICHARD
Just one... though the judge
ordered it to be dismantled.

FRANK
And she gave plenty to charity.

RICHARD
Did she? I mean, yes of course.

FRANK
So what do you think? I'm sure we
can find someone to talk about her.

RICHARD
Finding them was never my
concern... ehm... I'll see what I
can do.

FRANK
That's great, thank you Father.

Frank shakes his hand and exits -- Richard stares at him
go.