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James Joyce

# Molly Bloom's Soliloquy

Read by **Marcella Riordan**

Molly Bloom's famous soliloquy from James Joyce's *Ulysses* is a languorous internal monologue, in which the passionate wife of Leopold Bloom meditates on love and life. While Bloom sleeps beside her (head to toe), Molly recalls her many infidelities, including the energetic sexual encounter enjoyed that very afternoon. Though difficult to read straight from the page, Marcella Riordan's beautiful reading of this passage brings out all the wit and passion of one of the finest passages of writing in modern literature.



**Marcella Riordan** began her career at The Abbey School in Dublin and has worked in theatres all over Ireland and the UK, including the Druid Theatre and the Lyric Theatre (Belfast). She has worked extensively on BBC Radio and RTÉ in Dublin. Her previous work on James Joyce includes playing Gerty McDowell in Anthony Burgess's *Blooms in Dublin* (BBC/RTÉ), Zoe in *Ulysses* (RTÉ) and Molly Bloom for Naxos AudioBooks' recording of *Ulysses*. She was awarded Best Actress for her portrayal of Nancy Gulliver in a BBC Radio adaptation of Jennifer Johnston's *The Old Jest*.

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