

When describing Ewan, Chris compares him to the land. ("the crops and the earth in his bones and blood"). This basically insinuates that Chris married the land when she wed Ewan.

There is gossip spreading through Blaewearie of Chris becoming pregnant before the married which is frowned upon. ("toothsome and tasty").

Ewan wants to defend Chris from the gossipers but she stays above the gossip like usual and tells him to "let them think".

Ewan is described as being a completely silent and still sleeper, causing Chris to wake him up sometimes to make sure he is not dead. This is mentioned as it is a complete polar opposite from when he returns from basic army training as a changed man.

The harvest is a symbol in itself; Chris' harvest is the baby and Ewan's harvest is his crops.

Chris and Ewan don't care about the war, knowing it currently has nothing to do with them. ("Chris didn't care and Ewan didn't either"). Neither of them have any interest whatsoever and don't understand the significance.

It seems so far away from them, but during the process of Harvest, the war edges closer and closer towards affecting Blaewearie. ("there were aye dafe devils fighting about something or other").

During Chris' labour, she is very comfortable when it begins and is calm and collected with Ewan runs around like a headless chicken frantically. Despite the horrific pain, Chris is not crying or screaming ("women screamed, she wouldn't") but wills herself to keep standing up as it is the best way to keep the pain minimal. ("ion hooks were tearing in her body instead, rusty and dragging and blunt" - describes how brutal the pain she was feeling was).

She is feeling rather pessimistically realistic as she thinks of how she could easily die will giving birth to her new child: but this does not make her scared.