

FREDDIE

(kneeling at a grave, notices Polly) Today's her birthday.

POLLY

I know you never miss it.

FREDDIE

Then I'm lucky you're not a copper.
What do you want?

POLLY

I came to warn you.
They've lifted Stanly Chapman.

FREDDIE

How do you know? Police don't spill that information.

POLLY

I know cos it was me and Tommy who tipped them off.
Tommy did a deal.
In return for safe passage for you and Ada he's given them Stanly and the
money.

FREDDIE

Money? What money? Who told you about the money?

POLLY

Who do you think? Yeah, it was Ada's idea.
That's how desperate she is to get out of that rat-hole you're keeping her in.
She doesn't mind if you knew she just didn't want to be here when you
found out.
Sometimes the women have to take over.
Like in the war.

FREDDIE

Who the hell do you think you are, you fucking Shelbys.

POLLY

Don't swear over your mother's grave.

FREDDIE

You play your tune, you expect the whole world to dance to it.

POLLY

You don't have time for this, Freddie.

FREDDIE

You did a deal for me?

POLLY

Don't flatter yourself.
For Ada.

FREDDIE

And you think this copper will keep his word.

POLLY

If he does, you're safe.
If he doesn't, Chapman will give you up, you'll still have to leave town.
Same result.

FREDDIE

So neat!

POLLY

So leave.

FREDDIE

Except there's one thing that you got wrong.
Stanly won't be able to give up my address because he doesn't know it.

That's how it works.

None of us know each other's addresses.

So, you've wasted your fucking time.

They'll keep beating him and beating him for information he doesn't have.

All you've done is sign the death warrant of a good man.

POLLY

So, you won't leave.

FREDDIE

No! I won't fucking leave! If you want me out of Birmingham it'll have to be
in a wooden box.

You lay a hand on our Ada, I'll put you in a wooden box myself. (*HE
LEAVES*)

POLLY

You raised a stubborn one there, Irene.