

Breaking Down the Wall

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Anti-Sectarianism

Breaking Down the Wall

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Lights up on four characters dressed in black and white each carrying a card – the cards bear the words, **SEC, TAR, IAN** and **ISM**.

Sec Hi, I'm Sec.
Tar I'm Tar.
Ian Call me Ian – I'm the only one with a sensible name.
Ism And I'm Ism.
Ian See what I mean?
All Together, we're known as Sec, Tar, Ian, Ism – SECTARIANISM.

Sec We
Tar Split
Ian Things
Ism Up.
Sec In Scotland
Tar It's usually
Ian Because of
Ism Religious differences.
Ian Though we're pretty mean on race as well.
All Anyway, religion. Catholics and Protestants.
Sec Cathys and Prodys.
Tar Tims and Billys
Ian Papes and Huns.
Ism Beep Fenians and Orange Beeps.
All We make sure people are divided. We are a WALL.

They link together and form a wall. Marie and Gail enter and move L and R of the wall. Marie mimes picking flowers and Gail bounces a ball against the wall. The wall goes Ooyah! with each bounce until the ball eventually goes over to Marie's side. Gail peers over the wall.

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Gail Hello. What are you doing?
Marie Picking flowers.
Gail What kind?
Marie Dandelions.
Gail Oh right. Because they're weeds?
Marie No – because they're orange. My dad can't stand the colour.
Gail He'll no' like my dad then – he's an Orangeman.
Marie Does he have a fruit stall?
Gail No.
Marie Is he sweet and juicy?
Gail No – he's soor. He likes to march and play a flute.
Marie My dad plays the drums – maybe he could be in the band.
Gail I don't think so. My dad hates your dad.
Marie Right enough – my dad hates your dad as well.
Gail I don't know how – we've only just moved in.
Marie It's because you're a Protestant.
Gail And you're a Catholic.
Marie You must be Billy?
Gail No – my name's Gail. And you're Tim, right?
Marie Tim? That's a boy's name. I'm Marie.
Gail Is your dad Tim, then?
Marie No – Francis.
Gail That's funny – my dad said look at next-door's green curtains – they must be Tim's.
Marie My dad disnae like your dad's colour scheme either. A red roof, whitewashed walls and blue curtains. Don't know why – I quite like red, white and blue. Especially blue; but my dad hates it.
Gail I like your green curtains as well.
Marie This your ball?
Gail Aye. Can I have it back?
Marie Come over and get it.
Sec Stop!
Tar You mustn't mix with her.
Ian And you can't go near her.
Ism You're DIFFERENT.

Business in which Gail tries to go around the wall and the wall thwarts her by moving DS and US.

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Gail I can't seem to get round the wall.
Sec Of course you can't.
Tar We're here to keep you apart.
Marie Why?
Ian It's historical.
Ism It's traditional.
Sec 1690 – Battle of the Boyne.
Tar William of Orange.
Ian The Covenanters
Ism Northern Ireland.

Marie
Gail (Together) What's all that about?

Wall Er ... We don't really know. But we can chant! Up the IRA; Down with Popery!
Gail My mum says it smells nice.
Wall No' Pot Pourri – Popery! Down with Chris Evans!
Marie How does he come into this?
Sec He must be a raving Prod.
Tar He's got orange hair.
Ian And he married
Ism Billie Piper.

Gail
Marie (Together) This is just stupid.

They climb the wall simultaneously – the wall going Ooyah! again – till Gail is on Marie's side and Marie is on Gail's side.

Sec And we
Tar Thought
Ian We were
Ism Thick. (Wall laughs.)
Gail It looks like our mums and dads are right.
Marie Aye – we weren't meant to mix.

A scruffy individual appears, singing.

Angel You say potato and I say potato (same pronunciation)
You say tomato and I say tomato (same pronunciation)
Potato, potato, tomato, tomato,
Let's call the whole thing off.

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Gail Hello
Marie Who are you?
Angel I'm an angel, doll.

Wall laughs.

Wall An angel!
Angel Shut up! I'll deal with you later. I couldn't help overhearing you lassies there. What's a' this about no' mixin'?

Gail She's a Catholic.
Marie And she's a Protestant.
Wall We're a wall.
Angel Shut up! I'll deal with you later. Marie, what religion are you?
Marie A Catholic
Angel Aye but what religion?
Marie Christian.
Angel Right. 'Scuse me. (She passes through the wall.)
Sec How did
Tar You
Ian Do
Ism That?
Angel Gail, what religion are you?
Gail Protestant.
Angel Which is?
Gail Christian.
Angel Right. Coming through again. (She passes through the wall again.)
Sec She
Tar Did
Ian It
Ism Again.
Angel Marie, where does your family go on a Sunday?
Marie Chapel.
Angel Which is a kind of?
Marie Church.
Angel Right. Heads up. (She passes through the wall again.)
Sec I wish
Tar She'd quit
Ian Doing
Ism That.
Angel Gail, where does your family go on a Sunday?
Gail Bingo.
Angel Before that.
Gail The Kirk.
Angel Which is a kind of?
Gail Church.

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Angel Now we're getting somewhere. Mind the gap. (She passes through the wall again.)

Sec This is

Tar Beginning to

Ian Get on

Ism My nerves.

Angel Now – last question – and you can phone a friend – what sort of things do you like?

Gail Chocolate, pop music and computer games.

Angel passes through the wall again.

Wall We're going to complain to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Walls.

Angel Same question to you for a bonus point. What sort of things do you like?

Marie Chocolate, pop music and computer games.

Angel So – tell me again how different you are.

Gail You know, she's right, we've got a lot in common.

Marie We could be good friends if our parents let us.

Angel It's up to you to take the first step.

Gail

Marie (Together) Right!

They again try to get around the wall unsuccessfully.

Sec You'll

Tar Never

Ian Break down

Ism The wall.

Sec Na, Na

Tar Na

Ian Na

Ism Na.

Angel Pass us the ball, will you?

(The girls give her the ball, which she tees up as if for a free kick.) And there are four in the wall as Angel steps up to take the free kick. (The wall members adopt an appropriate pose, covering groins, etc.) She runs up to the ball; she shoots; she scores! (As the ball hits the wall it collapses.) And the walls came a- tumbling down. Let's see that again in the action replay. (Rewind. Repeat in slow motion. Gail and Marie run to hug each other in slow motion.) And they all lived together happily ever after. (Marie and Gail run off hand in hand.) Well, at least till their parents found out. (Sings.)

I'd like to teach the world to sing
In perfect harmony.

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| | |
|-------|---|
| Sec | Gonnae |
| Tar | Do us |
| Ian | A favour |
| Ism | And no' |
| Wall | Sing. |
| Angel | I've just got to sing! |
| Wall | Oh well, if you can't beat them, join them. |
| All | Song* |

Appropriate song that matches the “togetherness” theme – original production team chose “Love Train.”