

Brighton local lingo

Answer to quiz

In this story, 'outlandish' means 'not local', since Fanny's boyfriend had come from a village three miles away. (Nowadays, 'outlandish' usually means strange or unfamiliar).

Background

Name: Shirley Collins

Born: 5 July 1935

Lives: Lewes, East Sussex

Occupation: Folk singer / author

Describes own accent as: "Sussex, local."

Languages: English, French

Transcript

Shirley:

When I lived in Etchingham we lived next door to a couple who were in their 80s/90s - Fanny and Will Eastwood, and there's a song called 'The Outlandish Knight' that I used to sing and I... I... said and I was talking to Fanny one day and talking about her early life and said 'Had she had any other boyfriends before she met Will and married him and she was something like eighteen?' And she said 'Well I did have another boyfriend once' and I said, 'Oh, why didn't you marry him then, Fanny?' And she said 'Oh I couldn't, he was too *outlandish*,' and I said 'Oh Fanny, what does that mean?' and she said...'Well he came from a village three miles away...'

Interviewer: Oh my goodness, oh my goodness. Isn't that lovely?