

Task #4: Exchange

1. Form a group with two other students – each student should have read a different text (A, B, or C).

2. Each student introduces their text to the rest of the group. Make sure these aspects are covered in your introduction:

- ◆ What, in a nutshell, is the text about? What happens?
- ◆ Which characters or voices make an appearance?
- ◆ How would you describe the ghostly presence of Roger Casement?

3. Together, the group discusses the following questions:

- ◆ What are the similarities between the three texts concerning the ghostly appearance of Roger Casement? → **Possible answers:**
 - ◆ In *The Knight of the Flaming Heart* and “No Other Place,” the ghost of Roger Casement has a powerful effect on the other characters and the situation. Regardless of whether or not he is actually in the room (*The Knight of the Flaming Heart*) or even mentioned explicitly (“No Other Place”), his memory alone changes the situation: his ghost has a certain type of agency in the world of the story.
 - ◆ In all texts, his ghost is connected to and figuratively associated with a place or thing: the butterflies in “The Butterfly Collector;” the place of Tralee itself (where he was arrested in 1916) and a statue commemorating him in *The Knight of the Flaming Heart*; the flower bouquet and a portrait in “No Other Place.”
 - ◆ In all texts, Roger Casement’s voice is channeled: the character “Roddie” speaks for him in *The Knight of the Flaming Heart*, we can read his diary entries in “The Butterfly Collector,” and Alice Milligan remembers what he told her when she last saw him before his execution in “No Other Place.”
- ◆ What are the differences? → **Possible answers:**
 - ◆ The characters and settings are different in each text.
 - ◆ Each text has a different genre: novel, short story, essay.
 - ◆ Different aspects of Roger Casement’s life are central (Irish Nationalism in “No Other Place,” the expeditions to the Congo Free State and the Putumayo in “The Butterfly Collector,” the black diary debate in *The Knight of the Flaming Heart*)
 - ◆ In *The Knight of the Flaming Heart*, the ghost of Roger Casement actually appears in the flesh in the world of the story. In the other texts, he is ‘merely’ present as a memory, an invisible haunting.