

PRAIDD by Gwyneth Glyn

English synopsis and information to support new Welsh speakers

The play follows Dafydd, a young man who lives on a family farm called Graig Goch. His parents want him to take over the farm, but Dafydd is unsure - he worries about the pressure, the money, and his own future.

During the show, we see:

- Dafydd's family discussing passing the farm on to him
- The pressures of modern farming (money, policies, climate change)
- The history of the land and the family, including stories from the past (such as war and changes in farming methods)
- The tension between old and new, tradition versus modern ideas

Dafydd tries to make the farm successful, but the strain increases:

- He works very hard
- He worries about debts and business decisions
- He begins to struggle with his mental health (stress, anxiety, lack of sleep)

At one point, he reaches a very low point and can hardly cope. In the end:

- His mother realises that he needs help
- He begins to open up to other people
- Community and friendship (e.g. Guto and the choir) help him

The play ends with hope:

- Dafydd is no longer alone
- He begins to accept support
- He reconnects with the people around him

Key themes

- Family and heritage
- The pressures of work and farming life
- Change (old vs new)
- Mental health
- Community and support

KEY VOCABULARY

Farming & Land

- **fferm deuluol** – family farm
- **etifeddu'r fferm** – to inherit the farm
- **cylchdroi cnydau** – crop rotation
- **cynefinoedd** – habitats
- **pridd** – soil
- **cynnyrch** – produce / output
- **aredig** – ploughing
- **porfa** – pasture

Context: The farm is more than a business - it represents identity, history, and belonging.

Money & Business

- **margins tynn** – tight profit margins
- **yn y coch** – in debt / losing money
- **cynnig (bid)** – bid (e.g. for land)
- **outbidio** – to be outbid
- **buddsoddiad** – investment
- **ehangu'r busnes** – expand the business

Context: Dafydd constantly worries about finances and big decisions.

Mental Health & Emotions

- **dan bwysau** – under pressure
- **torri lawr** – to break down emotionally
- **methu ymdopi** – unable to cope
- **mynd i'r wal** – hit a wall
- **teimlo'n sownd** – feel stuck
- **boddi / mygu** – drowning / suffocating (figurative)

Context: Dafydd describes his feelings as if he cannot breathe.

Community & Identity

- **perthyn** – to belong
- **gwarchod y tir** – to protect the land

- **enedlaethau** – generations
- **cymdeithas** – society
- **cefnogi** – to support

Natural Spoken Phrases (from the play)

These are very useful for learners to recognise everyday Welsh speech:

Greetings & conversation

- **“Iown?”** – Alright? / You okay?
- **“Iown ‘Ily”** – Alright then
- **“Be sy ‘ta?”** – What’s up?
- **“Ga i weld”** – I’ll see / maybe

Expressing uncertainty

- **“Dwn i ddim”** → **“Dwn ’im”** – I don’t know
- **“Dwi’ m yn siŵr”** – I’m not sure
- **“Ella”** – maybe

Emotion & pressure

- **“Dwi ddim yn iawn”** – I’m not okay
- **“Fedra i ddim gwneud hyn”** – I can’t do this
- **“Mae o’n ormod”** – It’s too much
- **“Mae popeth yn pwyso arna i”** – Everything is weighing on me

Arguments & tension

- **“Paid â...”** – Don’t...
- **“Gwrandda!”** – Listen!
- **“Dyna’r pwynt!”** – That’s the point!
- **“Ti’n dallt?”** – Do you understand?

Informal & colloquial language

- **“malu cachu”** – messing around / talking nonsense
- **“uffar o...”** – very / extremely

Note: The play uses very natural spoken Welsh - don’t expect textbook grammar.

SCENE-BY-SCENE SUMMARY

Scene 1

- Dafydd and his mother talk
- His parents want him to take over the farm
- Dafydd feels unsure

Theme: responsibility

Scene 2

- Dafydd moves sheep across the land
- Visual images of the past appear

Theme: weight of history

Scene 3

- Conversation with Guto
- Discussion about modern farming challenges

Theme: money and risk

Scene 4

- Dafydd agrees to take over the farm
- Wants to do things his own way

Theme: change

Scene 5

- Community gathering with music
- War interrupts everyday life

Theme: loss and history

Historical sequences

- Story of earlier generations
- Conflict between father and son (old vs new methods)

Theme: tradition vs modernisation

Scenes 6–7

- Dafydd is now running the farm
- Problems begin to build

Theme: pressure

Scenes 8–10

- Family arguments
- Financial struggles
- Failure to secure more land

Theme: stress and frustration

Scene 11 (emotional climax)

- Dafydd breaks down
- Nearly harms himself

Theme: mental health crisis

Scene 12

- His mother reaches out for help

Theme: breaking stigma

Scenes 13–14

- Support from friends and family
- Dafydd begins to talk

Theme: community support

Scene 15 (ending)

- Dafydd joins the choir
- Reconnects with others

Theme: hope and recovery

FINALLY

- Don't worry about understanding every word
- Focus on:
 - emotions
 - relationships
 - visual storytelling

This is not just a play about farming - it's about pressure, identity, and learning not to carry everything alone.