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#OneNightForAll

#OícheDárSaol

#ReadMór



Welcome to Read Mór

We are excited to welcome you to the Read Mór book gifting project, our gift to you on Culture Night 2023.

After Read Mór's hugely successful debut in 2022, we are proud to work in partnership with HSE Healthy Ireland to bring Culture Night to those who cannot be out and about on the night. A list of 29 titles from some of Ireland's best-loved writers will see over 3,600 books gifted to patients and staff in seven selected hospitals nationally.

Read Mór 2023 books have been selected by the Laureate for Irish Fiction 2022-2024, Colm Tóibín; the Laureate na nÓg 2020-2023, Áine Ní Ghlinn; the Laureate na nÓg 2023-2026, Patricia Forde and the Ireland Professor of Poetry, Paul Muldoon.

With this project, we are thrilled to support and promote Irish and Irish based writers, publishers and independent book sellers. We hope that you enjoy the pleasure of reading for your wellbeing, will continue to explore the diversity and richness of literature in Ireland and that you in turn, may pass on the joy of reading.

Maureen Kennelly
DIRECTOR, ARTS COUNCIL

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**CULTURE
NIGHT**

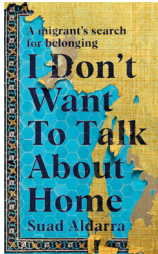




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CULTURE NIGHT

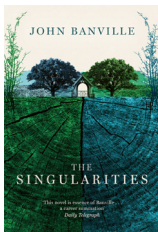


I Don't Want to Talk About Home

Suad Aldarra

I Don't Want to Talk About Home is a debut memoir of a Syrian woman who was forced to flee war-torn Syria in 2012 with her Palestinian-Syrian husband, yet her legal status was never as an asylum seeker or refugee. It's a memoir about the enduring love for a home that is lost, building a life out of the rubble, and finding yourself when integrating into a new world. A remarkable, insightful and honest account of Suad Aldarra's journey to safety, and eventual citizenship, in Ireland.

- Genre | *Memoir*
- Audience | *General*
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

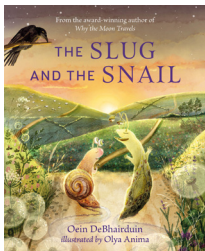


The Singularities

John Banville

Opening with one of the author's most celebrated characters, Freddie Montgomery as he is released from prison, this is a playful, multifaceted novel about nostalgia, life, death and quantum theory. John Banville is an award winning (Man Booker Prize, the Austrian State Prize for Literature, the Kafka Prize, Irish PEN Award and the Prince of Asturias Award) novelist, screenwriter, playwright and book reviewer. He worked in journalism for many years and was literary editor at *The Irish Times* from 1988 to 2000.

- Genre | *Fiction*
- Audience | *General*
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

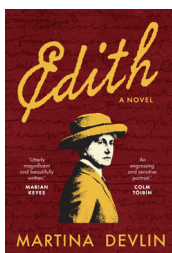


The Slug and the Snail

Oein DeBhairduin (illustrated by Olya Anima)

Two slugs travel happily together until they meet a crow who asks them where their home is. One of the slugs is ashamed, makes himself a shell, and calls himself snail. The other brother carries on as he is. A tale rooted in the oral tradition of the Irish Traveller community about identity, self-acceptance and different ways of seeing the world. Oein DeBhairduin is an award-winning author, activist and educator, winning the Judges' Special Award prize at the 2021 Children's Books Ireland for *Why the Moon Travels*.

- Genre | *Children's*
- Audience | *Children (4-8)*
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



Edith

Martina Devlin

A historical novel based on the life of Edith Somerville of 'Somerville and Ross' fame – authors of *The Irish R.M.* Somerville finds herself at a crossroads in this novel during the turbulent period of Irish Independence 1921–22 as she fights to maintain Drishane House, the family home in West Cork, while others are burned out. Martina Devlin has won many awards including the Royal Society of Literature's V.S. Pritchett Prize and a Hennessy Literary Award. She presents the City of Books podcast, sponsored by the Arts Council and supported by Dublin UNESCO City of Literature and the Museum of Literature Ireland.

- Genre | *Historical Fiction*
- Audience | *General*
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



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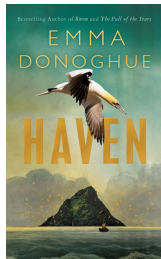


Exciting Times

Naoise Dolan

An exciting debut novel about contemporary love that is both intimate and bracingly intelligent. Ava, a millennial Irish expat who moves to Hong Kong in search of happiness, finds herself caught up in a love triangle with a male banker and a female lawyer. Naoise Dolan is an Irish writer born in Dublin. *Exciting Times* became a Sunday Times bestseller, widely translated and optioned for TV. *Exciting Times* was shortlisted for the An Post Irish Book Awards and the Waterstones Book of the Year in 2020.

- 📖 Genre | Fiction
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE

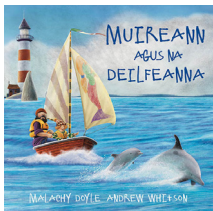


Haven

Emma Donoghue

Haven, is about the monks who landed on Skellig Michael in the seventh century. Artt, a priest and scholar, has a dream telling him to leave his current world behind. He believes the vision is instructing him to set up a monastic retreat far away on this extraordinary piece of bare rock. Emma Donoghue is an award-winning writer from Dublin, now living in Canada. She was nominated for an Academy Award and a Bafta for her adaptation of her Booker-shortlisted international bestseller *Room*.

- 📖 Genre | Historical Fiction
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE

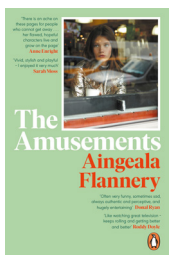


Muireann agus na Deilfeanna

Malachy Doyle (illustrated by Andrew Whitsun)

This is the sixth book in the *Muireann* series and sees young Muireann take bravely to the seas in a little dinghy made by her fisherman father who teaches her to sail. Before long she is sailing with dolphins by her side. When one gets tangled up in a fishing net, Muireann helps the dolphin. But what will happen when it's Muireann who needs help? Malachy Doyle has written over 70 children's books and lives in Donegal.

- 📖 Genre | Children's
- 👤 Audience | Children (3-6)
- 🍀 Irish language book
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



The Amusements

Aingeala Flannery

In this collection of loosely interlinked stories, capturing small-town life in the seaside town of Tramore, we meet local teenager Helen Grant and her classmate Stella Swaine. Witnessing the idiosyncrasies of a place and its inhabitants and spanning thirty years, *The Amusements* follows the Grant and Swaine families and their neighbours. Aingeala Flannery was born in Waterford and is an award-winning journalist, broadcaster and writer. Published in June 2022, this debut novel was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards.

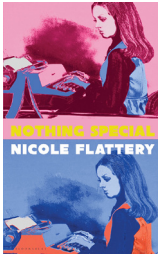
- 📖 Genre | Short Story
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



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Nothing Special

Nicole Flattery

A teenager lands a job as a typist in artist Andy Warhol's Factory Studio, typing up conversations that became A Novel, published in 1968. A coming of age story set in 1960's New York is the subject of this wonderfully original debut novel, Nothing Special. It is a tale about friendship, independence and how art and identity are created. Nicole Flattery grew up in Mullingar and is also known for her short stories. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *the London Review of Books* and *Sight & Sound Magazine*.

- Genre | Fiction
- Audience | Young Adult
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

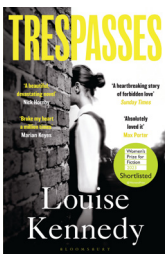


The Pages

Hugo Hamilton

The Pages is an entirely original novel telling the life story of Joseph Roth's masterpiece book, *Rebellion*. Following the initial rescue from the Nazi book burning in Berlin in May 1933 to the present day, this book looks at issues of censorship, oppression and violence. As a novelist and playwright Dublin born Hugo Hamilton has won many international awards, including the French Prix Femina Etranger and the DAAD scholarship in Berlin, as well as the prestigious Bundesverdienstkreuz, awarded by the German state for his understanding of cultural diversity.

- Genre | Historical Fiction
- Audience | General
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

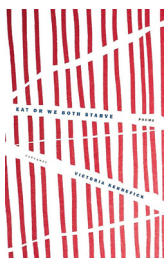


Trespasses

Louise Kennedy

The story of a young Catholic woman living in late 1970s Northern Ireland who starts a relationship with a much older Protestant man and is caught between allegiance to community and a dangerous passion. Before she started writing, Louise Kennedy spent nearly thirty years working as a chef. *Trespasses* is her debut novel and it won Eason's Novel of the Year at An Post Irish Book Awards and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize and the Barnes & Noble Discover Prize.

- Genre | Fiction
- Audience | General
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



Eat or We Both Starve

Victoria Kennefick

Drawing the readers into the familiar – the family home, the shared meal, the rituals of historic occasion, desire – this daring collection of poetry tackles how to live with the past and not be consumed by it. *Eat or We Both Starve* is poet Victoria Kennefick's multi award winning first book winning the Seamus Heaney First Collection Prize 2022, Irish Times Best Poetry Books of 2021 and Sunday Independent Book of the Year 2021. Born in Cork, Kennefick's work appeared on the Leaving Cert curriculum in 2023.

- Genre | Poetry
- Audience | General
- [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



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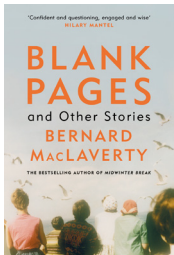


Catfish Rolling

Clara Kumagai

An original debut young adult novel set in the aftermath of the 2011 Japanese earthquake. In this coming-of-age story, themes of identity, relationships, grief and ecology are explored and set in a world of Japanese myths, folklore and magical realism. Clara Kumagai is from Canada, Japan and Ireland. She has published both fiction and non-fiction for children and adults. She was a recipient of a We Need Diverse Books Mentorship (with Nicola Yoon) and a finalist for the 2020 Jim Wong-Chu Emerging Writers Award.

- 📖 Genre | Fiction
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



Blank Pages and Other Stories

Bernard MacLavery

A collection of twelve extraordinary new stories that delve into MacLavery's signature themes of domestic love, Catholicism, the Troubles and aging. Demonstrating insight and compassion, the stories display the perseverance of the human spirit. Belfast born Bernard MacLavery has published five novels and six collections of short stories most of which are gathered into *Collected Stories* (2013). He has written versions of his fiction for other media such as radio plays, television plays, screenplays and libretti. *Blank Pages*, published in August 2021, is his sixth collection of short stories.

- 📖 Genre | Short Story
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



An Slipéar Gloine

Fearghas Mac Lochlainn (illustrated by Paddy Donnelly)

A magical and fun retelling of the well-known Cinderella story with Luaithrin, a kindhearted and hard-working girl upset by her stepmother, Camilla, and her two awful daughters, Straoisín and Smaoisín. Galway based Fearghas Mac Lochlainn has won the Gradam Réics Carló 2022, An tOireachtas and Judges' Special Award at the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards and was shortlisted for the Children's Category in the Irish Language Book of the Year Publishing Awards.

- 📖 Genre | Children's
- 👤 Audience | Children (3-6)
- 🍀 Irish language book
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



A Girl is A Half-formed Thing

Eimear McBride

Set in rural Ireland, the story of a young girl's devastating adolescence as she and her brother, who suffers from a childhood brain tumour, struggle for a semblance of normalcy in the shadow of sexual abuse, denial, and chaos at home. Eimear McBride grew up in the west of Ireland and this her debut award winning novel (the Women's Prize for Fiction, Goldsmiths Prize, Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, Desmond Eliot Prize among others) was first published in 2013. It has since been adapted for the stage by Annie Ryan and performed in Dublin, Edinburgh, London and New York.

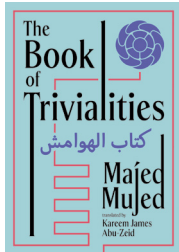
- 📖 Genre | Fiction
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



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The Book of Trivialities

Majed Mujed (translated by Kareem James Abu-Zeid)

A poetry collection by celebrated Iraqi poet Majed Mujed, now living in Ireland, is about the fraught landscapes of beauty, longing, politics and resistance in a country at war. Originally written in the poet's native Arabic, award-winning translator Kareem James Abu-Zeid has translated Majed's words into English. Reflecting the collaborative and creative approach of writers and translators working across cultures, this is a unique bilingual book. Majed has numerous awards for his work from the Al Mada Cultural Foundation, Iraqi House of Wisdom and the Arts Council.

- 📖 Genre | Poetry
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE

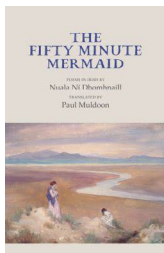


Eoinín agus a Chairde

Muireann Ní Chíobháin (illustrated by Roisín Hahessy)

Eoinín is very excited for his first day at school. But he doesn't know anyone in this new place! In this fun interactive story, little ones will enjoy helping Eoinín to settle in at school. Muireann Ní Chíobháin is a screenwriter, creator and performer, specialising on writing for young audiences. She is the creator and Lead Writer of RTÉjr series 'Dig In Diner' and 'Mr. Mender and The Chummyjiggers'.

- 📖 Genre | Children's
- 👤 Audience | Children (0-3)
- 🍀 Irish language book
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



The Fifty Minute Mermaid

Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill (translated by Paul Muldoon)

Published as a parallel text in Irish and English, The Fifty Minute Mermaid invokes a profile of mermaids, tracing the fate of their race. Following the paths and portals to another world, Land-Under-Wave, the poetry delves into the realm of myth, imagination and the psyche. One of Ireland's most well known Irish language writers Ní Dhomhnaill has received many scholarships, prizes, and bursaries. She was Ireland Professor of Poetry from 2001 to 2004 and the first Professor of Irish (language) Poetry.

- 📖 Genre | Poetry
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🍀 Parallel text in Irish and English
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



The Sackville Street Caper

Alan Nolan

Set in Dublin in 1858, Bram Stoker (future author of Dracula) is an eleven-year-old boy who escapes his boarding school looking for adventure (and something to write about). He meets Molly Malone, a sneak thief and part time fishmonger. Exploring the city, they discover a plot to steal the Irish Crown Jewels from Dublin Castle. Together they must thwart the evil Count Vladimir. Wicklow based Alan Nolan is an author and illustrator of many books and runs illustration and writing workshops for children.

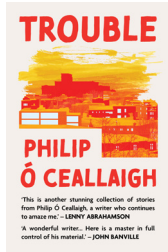
- 📖 Genre | Children's
- 👤 Audience | Children (10+)
- 🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



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Trouble

Philip Ó Ceallaigh

This new collection of short stories from Philip Ó Ceallaigh is both a meditation on human frailty and an unflinching interrogation of love, of its losses and gains, and the surprising ways that it delivers purpose and meaning to our lives. Ó Ceallaigh is an Irish short story writer and translator living in Bucharest, Romania. He was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature for his first book, *Notes from a Turkish Whorehouse*.

- 📖 Genre | Short Story
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

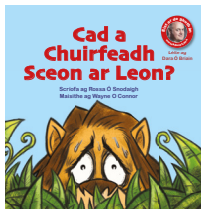


My Father's House

Joseph O'Connor

Set in Nazi occupied Rome, in the middle of the Second World War, *My Father's House* is based on real events. This historical fiction novel follows Irish priest Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty and his associates, who risked their own lives to save others, smuggling allied troops and Jews out of Italy in 1943. Joseph O'Connor is an award-winning author and playwright whose fiction is published in 40 languages. *My Father's House* is his eighteenth book. He is the Frank McCourt Chair of Creative Writing at UL.

- 📖 Genre | Historical Fiction
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)

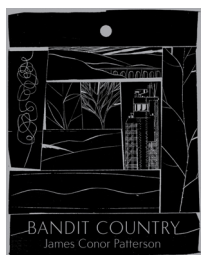


Cad a Chuirfeadh Sceon ar Leon?

Rossa Ó Snodaigh (illustrated by Wayne O'Connor)

This children's picture book gives very funny answers to the burning question 'What Would Terrify a Lion?' This is Rossa's third book for children and the audio version has Dara Ó Briain reading the story with musical backing from Caitriona Frost and the author (who is a member of Kíla) along with a host of sound effects and the worried sounds of the poor Lion. An English translation is provided at the back of the book.

- 📖 Genre | Children's
- 👤 Audience | Children (6-10)
- 🍀 Irish language book
- 🌿 [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



Bandit Country

James Conor Patterson

Written in the very particular dialect of the Irish border, a mixture of Newry Street, Ulster Scots and Ulster Gaelic this debut collection is an account of a young man's navigation of the semi-lawless borderlands between the north of Ireland and the Republic. Published in 2022, this is a haunting exploration of place and people and to the ever-looming fences and boundaries with which we must reckon, collectively and urgently. Newry born James Conor Patterson is an Eric Gregory award-winner.

- 📖 Genre | Poetry
- 👤 Audience | General
- 🌿 [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)



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All this happened, more or less

Jayne A. Quan

In this stunning debut collection of essays, Jayne A. Quan writes with raw honest and humour about key moments in their life and transition. Navigating the emotions of loss, grief, memory and the power of love and healing, this book explores what it takes to live your own truth and carve a place for yourself in a world that offers no blueprint. Jayne is Asian American and spent much time in Ireland, studying in UCD. They were shortlisted for the 2019 Cosmonauts Avenue Non-Fiction Prize.

📖 Genre | Essay Collection

👤 Audience | General

🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



Some Integrity

Padraig Regan

Eric Gregory Award-winning poet Padraig Regan's debut full collection of poetry, *Some Integrity*, is a fresh work of poetic art, exploring queerness as a way of looking, a perspective. Shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection 2022, Winner of the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry 2023 and Winner of the Clarissa Luard Prize 2021 this collection encourages readers to embrace the world anew. Born in Belfast, they are the recipients of the 2020 Irish Chair of Poetry Bursary Prize.

📖 Genre | Poetry

👤 Audience | General

🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



Inis Mara

Tristan Rosenstock

The people of Inis Mara were happy and enjoyed life. However, when Santóir is appointed leader his lack of concern for the environment has a detrimental effect on the island and its inhabitants. Éabha, a brave young islander, decides to act. With a focus on climate change, this modern adventure story reminds us of the importance of working with others. A broadcaster with RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and the literary editor of Comhar, *Inis Mara* is Tristan Rosenstock's first book for children.

📖 Genre | Children's

👤 Audience | Children (10-14)

🍀 Irish language book

🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



The Fox's Tower

Sam Thompson (illustrated by Anna Tromop)

Willow follows the foxes and a large wolf-like creature into the wood after seeing her animal loving father, Silas being kidnapped. The Fox's Tower is the second book second in the Wolfstongue Saga (2021) and sees a girl and her wolf friends take on the evils of the fox empire that rules the forest. It was long listed for the British Science Fiction Association Awards: Best Book for Young Readers. Belfast based Sam Thompson is the author of two novels for children as well as several books for adults.

📖 Genre | Children's

👤 Audience | Children (9-11)

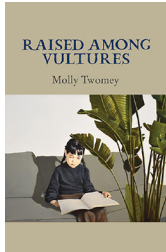
🌿 AUTHOR'S WEBSITE



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Raised Among Vultures

Molly Twomey

A debut poetry collection chronicling a history of eating disorders and inner conflicts. These are frontline reports from the outposts of youth, 'nights / spent drunk with boys we could barely remember, / would never forget.' *Raised Among Vultures* is, Waterford born, Molly Twomey's has won the Southword Debut Collection Poetry Award, was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Poetry Prize for Best First Collection, and the Farmgate National Poetry Award. It was a book of the year in the Irish Times.

 Genre | Poetry

 Audience | General

 [AUTHOR'S WEBSITE](#)