



## A History of Loneliness: A Novel

By John Boyne

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**The riveting narrative of an honorable Irish priest who finds the church collapsing around him at a pivotal moment in its history**

Propelled into the priesthood by a family tragedy, Odran Yates is full of hope and ambition. When he arrives at Clonliffe Seminary in the 1970s, it is a time in Ireland when priests are highly respected, and Odran believes that he is pledging his life to "the good."

Forty years later, Odran's devotion is caught in revelations that shatter the Irish people's faith in the Catholic Church. He sees his friends stand trial, colleagues jailed, the lives of young parishioners destroyed, and grows nervous of venturing out in public for fear of disapproving stares and insults. At one point, he is even arrested when he takes the hand of a young boy and leads him out of a department store looking for the boy's mother.

But when a family event opens wounds from his past, he is forced to confront the demons that have raged within the church, and to recognize his own complicity in their propagation, within both the institution and his own family.

A novel as intimate as it is universal, *A History of Loneliness* is about the stories we tell ourselves to make peace with our lives. It confirms Boyne as one of the most searching storytellers of his generation.

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## **A History of Loneliness: A Novel** By John Boyne Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Review

“The complex architecture of this haunting novel is seamlessly constructed. The path to the priesthood that Odran Yates follows is both understandable and sympathetic. And Father Yates is a good man; he is innocent of the false accusations made against him (he's *not* a pedophile). John Boyne has created a character who holds himself accountable for the sins of others. No writer today handles guilt with as much depth and sadness. As Father Yates takes himself to task for all he *didn't* do, nothing less than the sexual duplicity and cover-ups of the Catholic Church are indicted. This is John Boyne's most important novel and of vital importance to Irish history; it is also a gripping story, one no reader can put down until its devastating end.”  
*?John Irving*

“John Boyne brings a completely fresh eye to the most important stories. He is one of the great craftsmen in contemporary literature.” *?Colum McCann*

“John Boyne has plunged into the dark and troubled history of the Catholic Church in our time and come up with a novel to treasure. Unflinching, moving, and true.” *?John Banville, author of Ancient Light*

“An urgently compelling story of power, corruption, lies, self-deceits, and the damage that happens when we turn our eyes from wrong. Anyone who wants to know what happened in the Irish Catholic Church needs to read this brave, righteously angry, and stunning book. Some of us have long wondered what it would be like if a master storyteller turned his powers to this theme. Now we know.” *?Joseph O'Connor, author of Star of the Sea*

“Boyne's plotting and pacing are first-rate, and his mastery of the slow-boil is evident.” *?The Daily Beast*

“With this exceptional piece of fiction, Boyne has explored a subject with insight and sensitivity which most would shy away from. It's a brave, angry and powerful novel which sheds new light on a dark chapter in Ireland's history.” *?The Daily Mail UK*

### About the Author

**John Boyne** is the author of numerous works of fiction, including *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, a young adult novel that became an international bestseller and was made into an award-winning film. His books have been translated into forty-six languages, and he is the recipient of two Irish Book Awards, the Bistro Book of the Year, and numerous international awards. He lives in Dublin, Ireland.

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#### Joel Jones:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a

book. These are reading whatever they have because their hobby is reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, man feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will want this A History of Loneliness: A Novel.

**James Holmes:**

People live in this new time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get lots of stress from both day to day life and work. So , once we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to you of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is A History of Loneliness: A Novel.

**Naomi Harris:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book particularly book entitled A History of Loneliness: A Novel your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a book then become one application form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get prior to. The A History of Loneliness: A Novel giving you an additional experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

**Lena Robertson:**

A History of Loneliness: A Novel can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort that will put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing A History of Loneliness: A Novel but doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

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