



## **The Girl Nobody Wants - A Shocking True Story of Child Abuse in Ireland**

*Lily O'Brien*

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"It's my 40th birthday today and I'm trying to smile, but as I look in the mirror all I can see is an empty shell, someone waiting to die... You could never tell that anything was wrong with me by just looking at me, as I dress clean and I keep myself tidy, and I have a smile on my face that hides my emotions and over the years I've become an expert at hiding behind it" This is the shocking true story of an innocent girl abused by the very people who said they would take good care of her. Lilly's family began the path to her destruction - they used and abused her - but they never ever wanted or loved her. The little girl was sexually physically and emotionally abused by many people around her who were able to hide behind the security of Ireland's Catholic Church-run institutions. She also suffered at the hands of other people around them who they called their friends. You only get one chance to live your life as a child, but Lilly was never given that chance - her childhood was taken from her before it ever begun. From the age of four, when she was first sexually abused, her life changed forever; when she walked through the institution's doors in Ireland, her life continued along the same path that has destroyed her soul. Her emotional pain is as strong today as it was the day it began and will never leave her alone. "When I go to sleep it's in my head and when I wake up I can see it in the mirror and I am only waiting to die." A child abuse story that will stay with you forever and one that you will talk about for many years to come. The Girl Nobody Wants is a harrowing true story that will appeal to fans of biographies.

## **The Girl Nobody Wants - A Shocking True Story of Child Abuse in Ireland Details**

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# **From Reader Review The Girl Nobody Wants - A Shocking True Story of Child Abuse in Ireland for online ebook**

**Michelle Hall says**

This book is incredibly hard to read, both in grammar and topic. Some reviews felt that it was made up because things didn't seem consistent (as in on one page she had no hair and a few pages later someone was pulling her by the hair)-I'm thinking that it was more because the timeline wasn't clear and consistent. It jumped around through different ages very quickly. This book was not edited well and the run on sentences and spelling and grammar mistakes made me insane at times.

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**Karl Wiggins says**

I Don't believe it.

I don't believe it for two reasons. First of all, this woman claims to have been sexually abused by just about everyone she ever met. Let's list them: Her stepfather, her older brother, her sister's boyfriend, the boy at the farm, the lesbian nuns, and the priest who was a brother of the nice family. There's another one, I'm sure, but I lost track. And then the ones who didn't sexually abuse her kicked her, hit her (daily), locked her in cupboards, fed her vomit, gravel and asphalt and practically sold her into slavery.

Secondly, she has such a clear, vivid memory of precise events in her childhood. That's impossible. I remember precious little before I was about 11 years of age. I recall certain events very vaguely, but everything around those events is a fog. O'Brien remembers everything, right down to the minutest detail. She remembers events that happened when she was four and five so precisely that they just can't be true.

And really, can everyone - I mean EVERYONE - in that part of Ireland be a such a child-abusing paedophile? Everyone? Where are all the decent families that make up a community?

But it carries on. She finally ends up back in England and despite warning her sister, Karen, about Fred, their brother-in-law, fails to recognise him when she arrives in England herself until he tries it on with her again. What happens next is astounding. Her paedophile step-father, when he can't have his wicked way with her because she's pregnant ends up sleeping with her boyfriend! And her older brother starts raping her younger brother! And her mother just allows it all to go on! And at this stage I'm starting to feel that this is possibly a slightly dysfunctional family.

So why have I given it three stars? Because it's actually a very readable story. Cleverly written in that she starts with no call for sympathy whatsoever, in fact making the point that she's a pain to live with and that her boyfriend has an undeservedly tough time of it. For the most part the book is written from a child's perspective, and I'm still undecided as to whether this is very clever writing or she actually did have such a poor education that this is the best she can do. Whatever, it works, and you're drawn into the narrative through the eyes of a five-year-old. The love she feels for her younger brother, Simon is unimpaired and flawless, and this, along with her great stoicism is one of her many redeeming features.

For although I began this by stating that I don't believe it, I do believe this girl was abused, and badly. I just don't know how much is true. I think she's started off to write her story and just got carried away with it, losing herself in the narrative, perhaps adding other children's stories to her own as she went.

In short, I just don't know what to believe. Either way, though, it's a good read

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### **Kerry Jones says**

A fabulous though disturbing read. Almost brought me to tears (takes a lot). Would definitely recommend this book.

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### **Christina Brendible-martinez says**

Great inspiring book on just how much a human can handle. I started to read this book and found myself always thinking, this book could not get worse and when it did I just really reflected on how cruel humans really are. Lily has such courage to write what happened to her and to do it with such entailing detail. I felt myself with a lot of up and downs reading this book, I cheered for her victories and wept with her during her miseries.

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### **Courtni says**

I never write reviews for books that I read but this book was amazing. Not amazing in a happy way but amazing as in very touching and moving. As I read this book I began to realize that I need to cherish life and how good I had as a child. We all have problems growing up in life but to not have a childhood is not right. It is cruel that her family got away with all the harmful stuff they did to her and how no one stepped up and made it stop. No child should be treated that way and no adult should of let it happen. This true story of lily made me think and has made me want to go into child protective services as my career. I am 20 years old and absolutely love children and after reading this book I have officially made up my mind and want to go get involved in CPS and help children get out of bad situations. I want to be that person to stand up and help protect children from people like Likud family. I hope more people can read this book and get as much out of it as I did. This book impacted me in ways I didn't think a book could. I hope lily is living a better life and I hope she can know how much this book can change others and help others in their own lives. I hope that lily will know that by writing this book it could make people like myself be the voice for other kids like lily and save them from permanent life long damage.

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### **Summerc79 says**

We have all heard of child abuse and been horrified by it. In recent years, some new cases came to light, including the "Ireland Church Scandal". How can anyone not be disgusted by what some human beings inflicted on innocents?

This book hit me in the guts. From a literary point of view, it is a bit naive, not very polished. But I think this is what this sort of book needs. It needs to be raw, to be about fact and not about flourish. The fact that the

story is told at the 1st person makes it all the more gut wrenching. My heart cried for Lily and Simon - for (some of) her brothers and sisters too, but they are the ones who come across as the gentlest souls and endured the worse life can hand someone. You feel rage towards the mother, the Nuns, the families who "took care" of Lily during holidays and any other person she and little Simon had to deal with. The father? well you just want to shake him until he comes to his senses (but you know he's just weak). Just writing this review brings tears to my eyes... If I could tell Lily one thing, it would be not to give up hope entirely. She made it this far, she's stronger than she thinks. And she has a great husband by her side. I would also give angels Lily & Simon a big hug each and tell them that not everyone is rotten to the core, that some people do protect the more fragile. VERY emotional biography.

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### **Denise Kuntz says**

This book was very hard to finish due to all the abuse that Lily dealt with all her life;however, I did finish it. There are so many cruel people in this world,this is a true story.

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### **K says**

This is a hard book to rate. Yes, the writing is not grammatically correct or "proper" in many ways, however it reads like a testimony of someone who suffers mentally. Those with PTSD, psychosis, or other mental ailments may understand the rapid, lengthy, rambling/racing thoughts one gets in these states- This reads like someone is speaking to you in person in such a state. Admittedly, it took me a while to get used to this, there are a lot of "and then", "but" or fragmented sentences. If you stick with it, I think, as a reader, you learn to forgive because the book demands a certain amount of empathy which becomes clear the more you read this absolutely horrendous life of continually abuse.

I had to put the book down numerous times, it hit too close to home. It was enormously tragic, and I feel no shame in admitting I cried at various points, taking a break for two months before I could compile myself to return to her dark world. I felt a sense of understanding that I think some people may have to the author, as well, and I finished the book with the insatiable need to just hug and comfort this woman- her last words are very powerful, and very true.

Do not read this hoping or expecting a happy ending. Do not be disappointed or upset for an unabashed perspective of reality for many children and many girls and young women in this world. Despite being so grim, this is a story that needs to be heard.

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### **Ruth Turner says**

DNF

If I could rate this book with no stars, I would.

It's appalling.

For a start, it's badly written, really badly written.

Then, she was abused by her older brother, her step father, her sister's boyfriend and approached by a nameless black man with his hand in his pants. All in the first chapter.

Another thing I have a problem with is the author's vivid recollections of abuse from when she was three or four. This quote was in relation to her first sexual abuse by her sister's boyfriend "it looked like he had it all set up in advance and had planned the whole thing, then he told me not to tell anyone about our little secret." I mean, really? A three year old?

And all this in the first chapter.

The finish for me was the main character. I couldn't stand her. She was a whining, self-pitying ingrate who annoyed me so much that I knew there was no way I could finish the book.

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### Lori says

It's hard for me to give this book an "I loved it" rating - simply because of the content. My mind is blown away that this type of abuse can still go on in the world. I consider Ireland and England to be highly developed countries and to know that this went on not long ago and by soo many ignorant ignorant people and the Church just makes me want to cry. It took only one person to save Lily from this life - imagine what her life could have been had someone stepped in when she was 3 or 4 years old. I have a much greater respect for my own childhood, and the systems in place to protect kids in this country..... makes you wonder how many kids in the world - North America included live this way and suffer everyday. Lily - I want to reach through my computer screen and hug you - I truely hope that you can find some peace in your daily life. You are not deserving of your suffering, but really no child is.

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### Shwetika says

I really don't know how to rate this book . All I can say if it's a real story ( I don't know why an author would lie about it being real) I feel so sorry for lily. With every page i read my heart shattered into millions of pieces. I feel like killing her mother for being so negligent of her own children How could she ?? She just let a 2 year old free on roads for full day without food and water and that to on daily bases !!!!! God Some one should shoot her !! and her step dad That manic SOB!!! I sever if I know who he is he will be dead !! and What kind of damn society Ireland have ??? It's not just a story of another child abuse it's a story of a little girl how was sexually physically and **emotionally** abused by many people around.

It's my 40th birthday today and I'm trying to smile, but as I look in the mirror all I can see is an empty shell, someone waiting to die... You could never tell that anything was wrong with me by just looking at me, as I dress clean and I keep myself tidy, and I have a smile on my face that hides my emotions and over the years I've become an expert at hiding behind it" This is the shocking true story of an innocent girl abused by the

very people who said they would take good care of her. Lilly's family began the path to her destruction - they used and abused her - but they never ever wanted or loved her. The little girl was sexually physically and emotionally abused by many people around her who were able to hide behind the security of Ireland's Catholic Church-run institutions. She also suffered at the hands of other people around them who they called their friends. You only get one chance to live your life as a child, but Lilly was never given that chance - her childhood was taken from her before it ever begun. From the age of four, when she was first sexually abused, her life changed forever; when she walked through the institution's doors in Ireland, her life continued along the same path that has destroyed her soul. Her emotional pain is as strong today as it was the day it began and will never leave her alone. "When I go to sleep it's in my head and when I wake up I can see it in the mirror and I am only waiting to die." A child abuse story that will stay with you forever and one that you will talk about for many years to come. The Girl Nobody Wants is a harrowing true story that will appeal to fans of biographies.

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### **Jaz Sinner says**

Breaks your heart to read this story it's truly amazing what humans will endure to continue to live

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### **Misty says**

This is a very emotional book about a girl who was abused too many times to count. In this book this woman does recount her abuse history in detail so keep an open mind on how she and her other siblings felt and coped during these horrific encounters. This is a good book and gives an understanding of how abuse victims feel and have to grow up dealing with this trauma.

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### **Christine says**

I read this very quickly. I couldn't put it down. A page turner. It pulled so many emotions from me. Sadness, anger, shock, regret, happiness, the want to protect, plus so many more. An excellent book. Its such a shock that people could be so mean, cruel, and heartless to little children.

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### **C.C. Cole says**

I finished this disturbing book yesterday and spent today thinking about it. When I downloaded the cover for this post, I saw a one-star review where a reader says the story isn't true. Two points I'll make up front:

- 1) I wasn't there, so I see no reason to disbelieve the writer unless some other information comes out.
- 2) Whether or not the story is true or false, here's a truth: There are people in this world that consider those that cannot help themselves (children, vulnerable adults, animals) a burden and do not care for them as they would someone they love. I've seen and experienced enough in my lifetime to know bad things happen, and the lack of love brings forth such events.

The story is about Lily, who lived with a mother and stepfather in London, and after an assault by a family

member, was sent with her brother and sister to live with their father in Ireland. It didn't get much better there, as the father was often away, and the kids suffered neglect. When the community found out, they were taken in by a group of nuns and endured more hardship. When Lily grew up, she finally got away and met a man that loved her and continued to attempt to put her childhood behind her by giving her own kids the love she wasn't given.

Overall this was a compelling read that may turn away the skeptics and bring believers to tears. I liked the story, but sometimes, the truth is too hard for people to bear; so I recommend this story with a warning it's not for the faint of heart. Overall, well done, four stars!

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