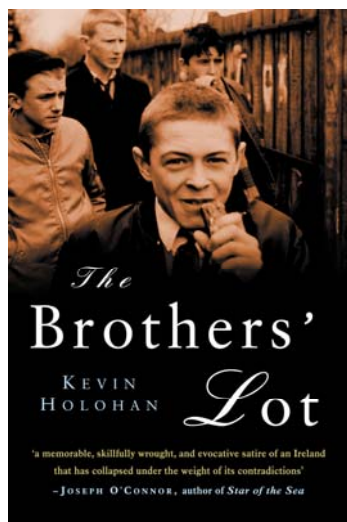


... **no exit press**
more than just the usual suspects



DEBUT
NOVEL

The Brothers' Lot

Kevin Holohan

'A memorable, skilfully wrought, and evocative satire of an Ireland that has collapsed under the weight of its contradictions'

Joseph O'Connor, author of *Star of the Sea*

'Terribly bleak and terribly funny'

Booklist

'This book aims to break your heart while it makes you catch your breath'

Luis Alberto Urrea, author of *The Devil's Highway*

Combining the spirit of Kingsley Amis's *Lucky Jim* with a bawdy evisceration of hypocrisy in old-school Catholic education, *The Brothers' Lot* is a comic satire that tells the story of the Brothers of Godly Coercion School for Young Boys of Meager Means, a dilapidated Dickensian institution run by an assemblage of eccentric, insane, and often nasty celibate Brothers. The school is in decline and the Brothers hunger for a miracle to move their founder, the Venerable Saorseach O'Rahilly, along the path to Sainthood.

When a possible miracle presents itself, the Brothers fervently seize on it with the help of the ethically pliant Diocesan Investigator, himself hungry for a miracle to boost his career – but as the miracle unravels, the Brothers' efforts to preserve it unleash a disastrous chain of events.

Tackling a serious subject from the oblique viewpoint of satire, *The Brothers' Lot* explores the culture that allowed abuses within church-run institutions in Ireland to go unchecked for decades. The novel inhabits a space where *Angela's Ashes* meets the work of Flann O'Brien and Mervyn Peake, while providing a look at a regrettable era that still haunts many countries across the globe.

KEVIN HOLOHAN was born in Dublin. He is a graduate of University College Dublin and a veteran of a high school education at the hands of the Christian Brothers. His short stories have been published in *Cyphers*, the *Sunday Tribune*, and, most recently, in *Whispers and Shouts*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife and son and he reviews fiction for the Irish Echo (New York). *The Brothers' Lot* is his first novel.

STOP PRESS! Kevin Holohan will be on a promotional tour of Ireland in June to mark the launch of *The Brothers' Lot*. He will be available for press, radio and TV interviews and he will be appearing at bookstores and festivals



The Brothers' Lot by Kevin Holohan

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