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Inside the O'Briens: A Novel

By Lisa Genova



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**A New York Times bestseller ? A Library Journal Best Books of 2015 Pick ?
A St. Louis Post-Dispatch Best Books of 2015 Pick ? A GoodReads Top Ten
Fiction Book of 2015 ? A People Magazine Great Read**

From *New York Times* bestselling author and neuroscientist Lisa Genova comes a “heartbreaking...very human novel” (Matthew Thomas, author of *We Are Not Ourselves*) that does for Huntington’s disease what her debut novel *Still Alice* did for Alzheimer’s.

Joe O’Brien is a forty-three-year-old police officer from the Irish Catholic neighborhood of Charlestown, Massachusetts. A devoted husband, proud father of four children in their twenties, and respected officer, Joe begins experiencing bouts of disorganized thinking, uncharacteristic temper outbursts, and strange, involuntary movements. He initially attributes these episodes to the stress of his job, but as these symptoms worsen, he agrees to see a neurologist and is handed a diagnosis that will change his and his family’s lives forever: Huntington’s disease.

Huntington’s is a lethal neurodegenerative disease with no treatment and no cure, and each of Joe’s four children has a 50 percent chance of inheriting their father’s disease. While watching her potential future in her father’s escalating symptoms, twenty-one-year-old daughter Katie struggles with the questions this test imposes on her young adult life. As Joe’s symptoms worsen and he’s eventually stripped of his badge and more, Joe struggles to maintain hope and a sense of purpose, while Katie and her siblings must find the courage to either live a life “at risk” or learn their fate.

Praised for writing that “explores the resilience of the human spirit” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), Lisa Genova has once again delivered a novel as powerful and unforgettable as the human insights at its core.



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Editorial Review

Unknown

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"Compelling and masterful." (NYJOURNALOFBOOKS.com)

"*Inside the O'Briens* is...about resilience and hope." (Bookreporter.com)

"This heartbreaking book tells the whole story of how a major illness affects a family. Genova's gift is to show that things do work out, in a sense. Her very human novel teaches us to keep living, to lean on each other and be there to be leaned on." (Matthew Thomas, New York Times bestselling author of WE ARE NOT OURSELVES)

"This novel of siblings rocked by their father's Huntington's disease is a total tearjerker, but ultimately it's a tribute to family love." (Glamour)

"An intimate, heartbreaking look at life with Huntington's disease." (Marie Claire)

"Genova...compassionately details how an illness—this time Huntington's disease—can destroy not only the afflicted, but those who love them as well." (People Magazine)

"An unsparing, heart-piercing portrait...compelling." (The Washington Post)

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"Lisa Genova's deep empathy for her characters shines through this poignant and uplifting story about family, grief and the resilience of the human spirit. Kudos to this amazing writer for showing us—once again—the transformative powers of even the most devastating events. Do not miss this fabulous novel." (Barbara Shapiro, author of *THE MURALIST* and *THE ART FORGER*)

"For the characters in a Lisa Genova novel, there is no way out, for genetic destiny has sealed their fate. And yet, for us as readers, there also is no way out, for we have no desire to look away. In his fear and courage, Joe O'Brien is an American hero. Huntington's disease will claim his life, but not his capacity to love. This is Genova's genius. A bold, skillful writer at the height of her narrative powers, she makes us long to hope for the hopeless and comfort the condemned. In their hard journeys, we find the small shining promise of every single ordinary day." (Jacquelyn Mitchard, author *THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN* and *TWO IF BY SEA*)

"Lisa Genova's subtle, finely tuned prose gains momentum until you don't know whether to laugh, cry, or give thanks. Like all of her work, *Inside the O'Briens* is brimming with candor, pathos, and deeply human characters. I didn't want the book to end!" (Vanessa Diffenbaugh, author of *THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS* and *WE NEVER ASKED FOR WINGS*)

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"The family's resilience makes this a story about living, not dying." (The Michigan Daily)

"[Genova's] compassionate storytelling is full of human emotion, all the way from boiling rage to love and gratitude, to despair." (The Vancouver Sun)

"For a book that could be bleak and depressing, Genova turns it into a story that is strong and uplifting. The disease will continue its inexorable march, but the O'Briens' response tells much about character when faced with crisis." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

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About the Author

Lisa Genova is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Inside the O'Briens*, *Love Anthony*, *Left Neglected*, and *Still Alice*. Her first novel, *Still Alice*, has been adapted into a film starring Julianne Moore, Alec Baldwin, and Kristen Stewart. Lisa graduated valedictorian from Bates College with a degree in biopsychology and holds a PhD in neuroscience from Harvard University. She travels worldwide speaking about Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury, and autism. She has appeared on *Dr. Oz*, *The Diane Rehm Show*, CNN, *Chronicle*, Fox News, and Canada AM and is featured in the Emmy Award-winning documentary film *To Not Fade Away*. She lives with her family in Massachusetts.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Doris Edwards:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a book. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled Inside the O'Briens: A Novel. Try to face the book Inside the O'Briens: A Novel as your pal. It means that it can for being your friend when you truly feel alone and beside those of course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortunated in your case. The book makes you more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So , let us make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Mary Barrientes:

The feeling that you get from Inside the O'Briens: A Novel could be the more deep you excavating the information that hide into the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but Inside the O'Briens: A Novel giving you buzz feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by means of anyone who read it because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having that Inside the O'Briens: A Novel instantly.

Sandra McLean:

This Inside the O'Briens: A Novel is new way for you who has fascination to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger of information. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having bit of digest in reading this Inside the O'Briens: A Novel can be the light food in your case because the information inside this book is easy to get by anyone. These books acquire itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in reserve form make them feel drowsy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is no in reading a book especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book kind for your better life along with knowledge.

Francis Knapp:

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