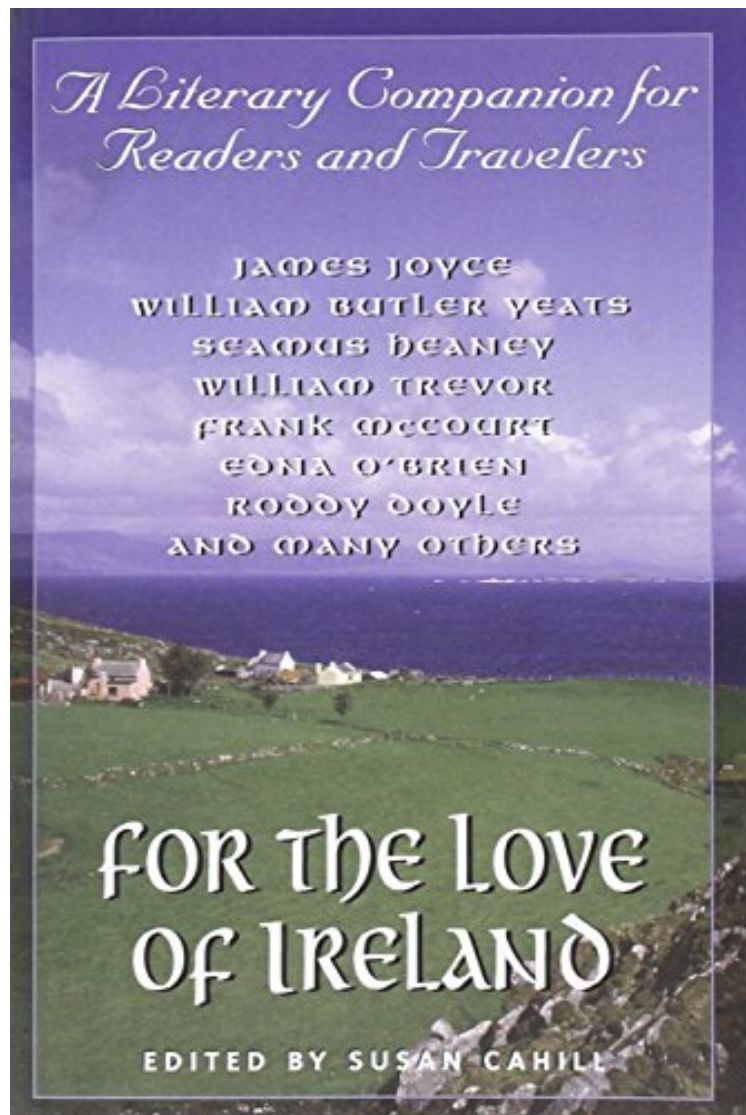


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For the Love of Ireland: A Literary Companion for Readers and Travelers

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From Ballantine Books : For the Love of Ireland: A Literary Companion for Readers and Travelers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised For the Love of Ireland: A Literary Companion for Readers and Travelers:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. WonderfulBy travelerI am still reading this book, Yet, I can recommend it as a great help to someone like me who is planning a visit to Ireland, to someone who has already been

to Ireland, as well as the 'arm chair traveler' who would like a taste of Irish thought and behavior as represented through the voices of Irish writers - some famous to everyone and some who may be unknown to the reader. Presented in groups based on location, the book starts with writers under the spell of Dublin. Each writer is introduced and speaks through prose, poetry, a scene from a play, or such. Then reader is invited to take a walk around the portions of Dublin described, street by street, building by significant land mark. The only improvement I could suggest to the author would be to include maps. I guess that's where Google Earth comes into play! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Carole Schoneman A sampling of the best of Ireland's writers. Slow reading if you don't know the Irish. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Transporting By William F. Magrogan Transports you there at times. Sound selections relevant to the regions.

Welcome to the Ireland of its Writers Walk the streets of Dublin with Jonathan Swift, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett, and Roddy Doyle. Contemplate the wild glens of Wicklow with John Millington Synge and Seamus Heaney. Wander the thrilling Cliffs of Moher with Wallace Stevens. Visit antic Limerick with Frank McCourt; mysterious Coole Park with Lady Gregory; breathtaking Sligo with William Butler Yeats; wild Donegal with Brien Friel; and hidden Clare with Edna O'Brien. No place has inspired more great literature than Ireland, which in each new generation gives birth to an astonishing number of poets, storytellers, and dramatists. For the literary pilgrim to arrive, book in hand, at the pub where Joyce set a scene or the mountain where Yeats imagined a myth is to uncover fresh meaning in the works of writers in love with their native landscape. In *For the Love of Ireland*, Susan Cahill offers the jewels of Irish literature. Each selection is followed by traveler's advice on how to find and fully experience the place that's about. Whether you take this book with you to Ireland or savor it in your armchair, you will be enriched, ennobled, and entertained by writers of remarkable range and at the top of their form.

From Publishers Weekly In *For the Love of Ireland: A Literary Companion for Readers and Travelers*, Susan Cahill (editor of the anthology *Desiring Italy*) pairs more than 60 writings (by over 40 authors) with geographic, sociological, literary, cultural and practical information. Pieces by Joyce, Roddy Doyle, Yeats, Edna O'Brien, Seamus Heaney and others are followed by Cahill's explications of the works' diverse settings, references, characters and events. Cahill includes travel guide details, such as the current schedule for the ferry that Sean O'Faolain described 50 years ago in *An Irish Journey*. Driven by literary enthusiasm rather than travel needs, the book suggests jaunts in 16 counties. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This combination anthology and travel guide uses excerpts from the works of many notable Irish writers, both classic and contemporary to set the scene for the traveler to Ireland. While reading this book, one may wander the streets of Dublin with Jonathan Swift, see Limerick through the eyes of Frank McCourt or experience Sligo alongside William Butler Yeats. Each literary selection is followed by practical tips for discovering the writer's subject. While this book will please lovers of Ireland and Irish writers, it should not be used as a primary travel planner. It is more suitable as a companion volume for the traveler to read while exploring the Emerald Isle or as a book for the armchair traveler. Cahill's other works include a similar guide to Italy (*Desiring Italy*, LJ 7/15/97) and several anthologies of women's literature. This book is appropriate for both academic and public libraries, but if your budget for travel books is limited, this may not be a necessary purchase. Sandy Knowles, Henderson Cty. P.L., NC Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Although she is the editor of this collection, Cahill is in fact far more than that. She has not only made a splendid selection of writings that describe Ireland's various regions; she has also put it into the context of a careful yet colorful literary gazetteer. The literary array is comprehensive, including younger contemporary writers like Roddy Doyle and Rita Anne Higgins as well as such classic authors as Joyce, Beckett, and Swift. What's more, some ancient Irish (Gaelic) selections, represented in translation, are complemented by pieces by contemporary writers in Irish. It all provides great armchair traveling, with such companions as Michael Longley at Mweelra in Mayo and William Butler Yeats at Dooney Rock in Sligo. Readers may be tempted to go beyond the armchair with this book, however, so beef up the Irish travel shelves in general for its arrival. Patricia Monaghan Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved