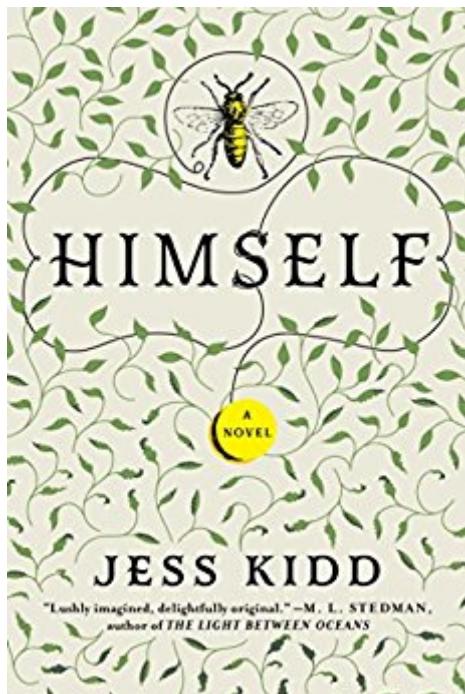


The book was found

Himself: A Novel



Synopsis

"[A] fast-paced yarn that nimbly soars above the Irish crime fiction genre Kidd clearly knows very well." —New York Times Book Review "[A] supernaturally skillful debut." —Vanity Fair "A delicious, gratifying and ageless story." —New York Journal of Books

Abandoned on the steps of an orphanage as an infant, Dublin charmer Mahony assumed all his life that his mother had simply given him up. But when he receives a tip one night at the bar suggesting that foul play may have led to the disappearance of his mother, he decides to return to the rural Irish village where he was born to learn what really happened twenty-six years earlier. From the moment he sets foot in Mulderrig, Mahony's presence turns the village upside down. His uncannily familiar face and outsider ways cause a stir among the locals, who receive him with a mixture of curiosity (the men), excitement (the women), and suspicion (the pious). It seems that his mother, Orla Sweeney, had left quite an impression on this little town—dearly beloved to some, a scourge and a menace to others. But who would have had reason to get rid of her for good? Determined to find answers, Mahony solicits the help of brash pot-stirrer and retired actress Mrs. Cauley, and the two concoct an ingenious plan to get the town talking, aided and abetted by a cast of eccentric characters, some from beyond the grave. What begins as a personal mission gradually becomes a quiet revolution: a young man and his town uniting against corruption of power, against those who seek to freeze their small worlds in time, to quash the sinister tides of progress and modernity come hell or high water. But what those people seem to forget is that Mahony has the dead on his side.... Centering on a small town rife with secrets and propelled by a twisting-and-turning plot, *Himself* is a gem of a book, a darkly comic mystery, and a beautiful tribute to the magic of language, legacy, and storytelling.

Book Information

File Size: 2856 KB

Print Length: 384 pages

Publisher: Atria Books (March 14, 2017)

Publication Date: March 14, 2017

Sold by: Simon and Schuster Digital Sales Inc

Language: English

ASIN: B01HMXRX02

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #70,540 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #37

inÃ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Lawyers & Criminals #130 inÃ Books > Literature & Fiction > Humor & Satire > Dark Humor #170 inÃ Books > Literature & Fiction > British & Irish > Humor & Satire

Customer Reviews

ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•Mulderrig is a place like no other. Here the colors are a little bit brighter and the sky is a little bit wider. Here the trees are as old as the mountains and a clear river runs into the sea. People are born to live and stay and die here. They donÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢t want to go. Why would they when all the roads that lead to Mulderrig are downhill so that leaving is uphill all the way?ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•Mahoney returns to Mulderrig, although he has no memory of being there, it was in Mulderrig he was born. Raised in a Dublin orphanage, he never knew his mother, has no memory of her or of family, or even of this place.ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•She couldnÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢t have known it but it was then that her baby stopped crying. The void her son had fallen into without the cradle of her gaze was immeasurable. He lay as mute as a little mushroom.ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•HeÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢s an adult now, old enough to search for her, for the reasons why she abandoned him. Who, and where he comes from. At first MahoneyÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢s presence goes mostly unnoticed by the mortal members of town, but Mahoney is aware of those beyond the realm who hover around him, teasing him with their presence. Their eyes tell so much, and nothing at all at the same time.ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•For the dead are drawn to those with shattered soulsÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•He is aware of the others, can see them, but he canÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢t see her. His mother. Orla Sweeney. He has a photograph of her, where sheÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã â„¢s holding him as an infant, given to him as he was leaving the Orphanage. Sister Veronica had left him an envelope, his real name, and the town of his birth: Mulderrig. He knows from the note that he was taken from his mother, by unknown townspeople, because his mother was ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â“the curse of the town.ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•His dark eyes are her eyes, the shape of his face, hers. The way he stands with his weight shifted back on his heels and his nose in the air, hers.ÃƒÂ¢Ã ¬Ã Â•And so, Mahoney arrives in Mulderrig in search of himself. Jess Kidd shares her story in writing that is lovely, inspired, ingenious, and

quintessentially Irish in the colloquial expressions. The mysterious mystical setting revealed with enough cleverness and wit to keep the heebie-jeebies at bay. Her characters are complex, including the intimidating local priest to Mrs. Cauley, a rather unconventional, wealthy, former theatre actress who is not afraid of much, and who takes Mahoney a bit under her wing. The hairs at the back of my neck stood up often, but perhaps most often at the splendor of her prose. Still there is an element that many would consider supernatural. Creepy, even. *Artist by Himself* is a truth universally acknowledged that when the dead are trying to remember something, the living are trying harder to forget it. Magical, moving, magnificent debut novel from Jess Kidd. I loved *Artist by Himself*, a uniquely beautiful blend of genres, a tale of love and loss, grief, and of secrets kept too long. Secrets that might rise from the grave under the right conditions and circumstances. With a little help.

While it took me a few chapters to get into the story, this book was excellent. Part murder mystery, part ghost story and a cast of unforgettable characters. I loved it.

Very imaginative and chock-full of interesting characters , both living and dead.

Wonderful read. Beautiful descriptions and characters. Unique, funny, well written. I recommend this book to anyone who loves reading and stories. I choose this rating because this is a great story.

I really enjoyed this book - the author has a wonderful way of telling the story, using wonderful descriptions and characters.

Very different, a good read.

Murder mystery meets science fiction.

Loved it

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Monet By Himself (Artist by Himself) Himself: A Novel Eiffel: The Genius Who Reinvented Himself
The Purple Land: Being the narrative of one Richard Lamb's adventure in the Banda Oriental in South America, as told by himself (The works of W. H. Hudson : Uniform edition) John Prine: In Spite of Himself (American Music) The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or

Gustavus Vassa, the African. Written by Himself Mister Dog: The Dog Who Belonged to Himself (A Little Golden Book) Life of Black Hawk, or Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiak: Dictated by Himself (Penguin Classics) The Man Who Stole Himself: The Slave Odyssey of Hans Jonathan The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself (Norton Critical Editions) Gandhi the Man: How One Man Changed Himself to Change the World Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave, Written by Himself (The Bedford Series in History and Culture) Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave: Written by Himself, Critical Edition No Impact Man: The Adventures of a Guilty Liberal Who Attempts to Save the Planet, and the Discoveries He Makes About Himself and Our Way of Life in the Process Big Nate Triple Play Box Set: Big Nate: In a Class by Himself, Big Nate Strikes Again, Big Nate on a Roll Fight for the Forgotten: How a Mixed Martial Artist Stopped Fighting for Himself and Started Fighting for Others The Discoverers: A History of Man's Search to Know His World and Himself Wine to Water: How One Man Saved Himself While Trying to Save the World Brand Luther: How an Unheralded Monk Turned His Small Town into a Center of Publishing, Made Himself the Most Famous Man in Europe--and Started the Protestant Reformation Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave, Written by Himself (Bedford Series in History and Culture)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)