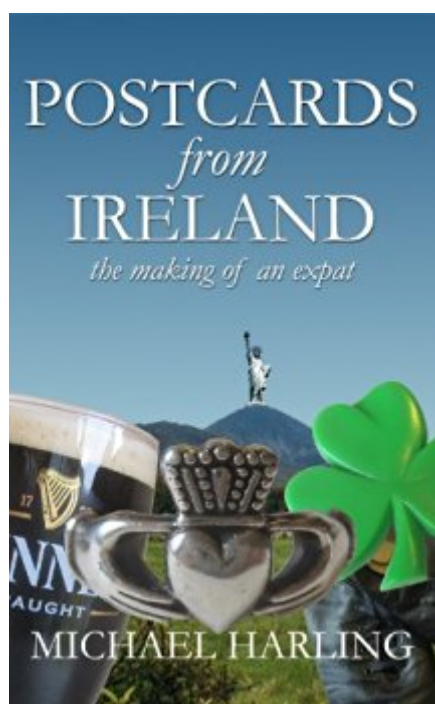


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# Postcards From Ireland



## Synopsis

In the summer of 2001, Michael Harling goes on a two-week vacation to Ireland. Here, the future author of *Postcards From Across the Pond* experiences life in Europe for the first time, and discovers he is ill-suited to the challenge. Along the way he finds himself at odds with the Irish climate, traversing treacherous terrain and in desperate need of a Laundromat. But he is on a mission, a pilgrimage of sorts, to uncover the elusive mystique that is the real Ireland. And while this ideal continues to elude him, he finds the one thing he was determined to avoid. *Postcards From Ireland* is a humorous ramble through the bogs and backlands of Ireland via the bewildered musings of the author who, while displaying his trademark ineptitude at dealing with life beyond the borders of the US of A, is unknowingly being drawn into an even greater adventure.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I enjoyed *Postcards From Ireland*. It was a light, easy read. I like the author's sense of humor. I smiled to myself a lot because I am Irish living in the US and can relate to many of the differences between the two countries/cultures.

How does Harling nail his hapless American male narrator so well? From the first page I was incensed with this guy who seemed so clueless about himself, women, other cultures - you name it - he was clueless. I hated Harling for writing a book from this character's perspective. I even hated Harling when he couldn't help himself and wrote a few uncharacteristic astute observations for this character to mouth. It slowly dawned on me that Harling is very adept at drawing characters and settled in for the rest of a good read with a lot of good stories about Ireland. Never a hiker myself, I can see why hiking appeals.

I never thought I could care so much if a guy in a book got a chance to get his laundry done! Really, I found myself going on to read the next chapter just to see if he got a chance to do his wash. The book is the humorous story of an American who, having broken it off with she-who-cannot-be-named, goes on a solo trip to Ireland to hike and enjoy his freedom. He is done with women, does NOT want to find another relationship. So, of course, you can guess what happens. Unlike Harling's other books, this is one story, rather than the brief, funny essays in his other books. I think, I've read all his books. He's very witty. His books are light reading, just for fun. I'm thinking this book would make a good hospital gift for somebody recovering from an illness

I was in Ireland, in all of the same towns, just a few months before Michael. I loved the way he described each town, the B & Bs, the pubs, the weather, the people. Thanks for sharing your story so well. Great memories for me.

Postcards from Ireland gives the reader a personal take on an Irish holiday. Michael Harling takes off from his urban life in America, unprepared for a hiking holiday in the wilds of Ireland.. His appraisals of the contrasts between life in America and Ireland are light and witty. His adventures provide the reader with a good insight into the contrasts between the false "touristy" Ireland and the genuine experience. The descriptions of the people and situations are pithy and insightful. Travelers both actual and armchair will find much to smile about in this story. There is a romance to this book which is appealing and insightful.

This book is about an ordinary American guy visiting Ireland for the first time & finding out the hard way that he should have done a little more research before leaving home. But it gives you an outsiders glimpse into everyday life in Ireland & I found it interesting & comical at times to learn these little tidbits of Irish life.

Didn't think Michael Harling could top his Postcards from Across the Pond but this is even funnier. How he survived his trip to Ireland with all its twists and unexpected adventures on a hiking tour with others from different countries is amazing. Can't wait for his next book.

A great read, free flowing, clever wit, and contains many passages, both physically & emotionally, that 'first-handedly' can relate too. I particularly enjoyed the 'ketchup theory' and have 'share' that with many a mate, especially those who've experienced their own "She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named".

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