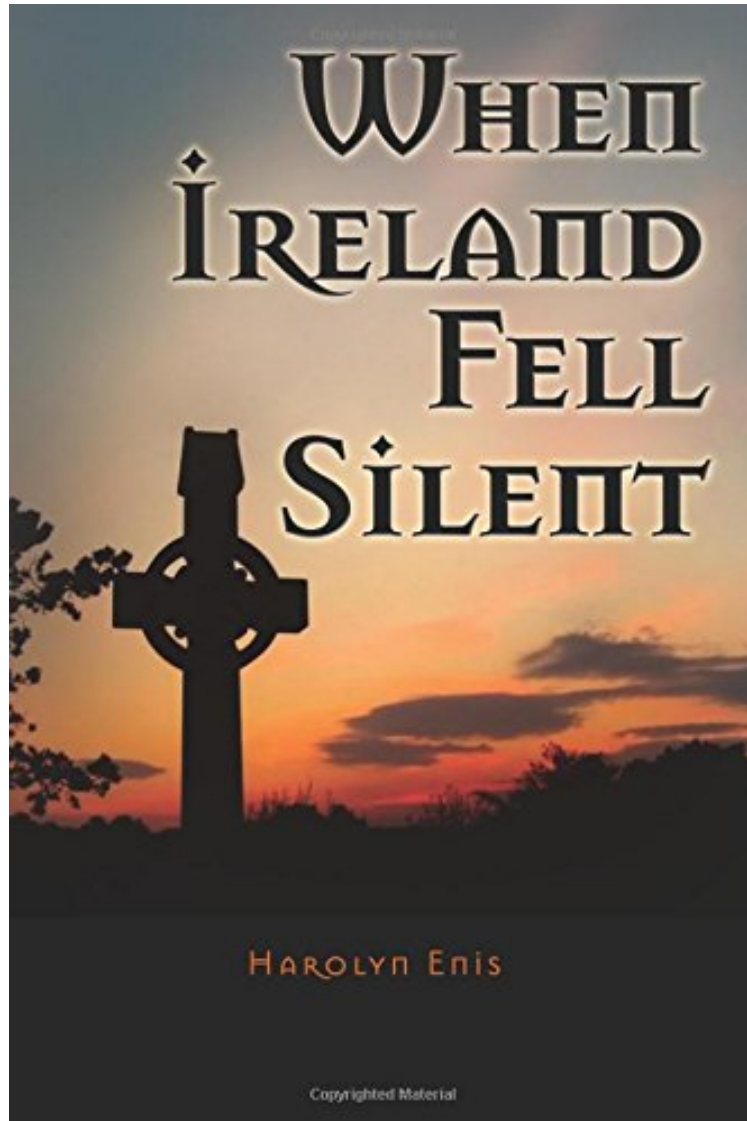


[Download] When Ireland Fell Silent

## When Ireland Fell Silent

*Harolyn Enis*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1194174 in Books Enis Harolyn 2010-10-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .91 x 6.00l, 1.29  
#File Name: 0984482105402 pagesWhen Ireland Fell Silent A Story of a Family s Struggle Against Famine  
and Eviction | File size: 16.Mb

**Harolyn Enis : When Ireland Fell Silent** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised When Ireland Fell Silent:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great book for discussionBy Susan and LarryOur book club chose this book for our October selection and the discussion proved to be one of the best discussions we've had. Most of us had no idea of the severity of the Irish Famine or the underlying causes. It was hard to accept the horrible injustices and deliberate cruelty the British imposed on Ireland and the Irish people. The details in the book were obviously well

researched and accurate - a wonderful historical novel that draws you in to the story. The characters and countryside came to life through the author's natural, flowing and descriptive writing style. The Prologue was especially well written and added the historical background that I needed. I referred to it many times while reading the novel. The Rielly family, their friends and neighbors are examples of how Irish families and communities hold themselves together no matter the adversity and tragedy they encounter. I am looking forward to the sequel. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Tragedy through a distant lens By Jack Shakely Time can dull our remembrance of tragedy, but not its occurrence. In Harolyn Enis' meticulously-researched historical novel, Ireland's Great Hunger of the 1840's comes vividly, heart-breakingly, to life. "When Ireland Fell Silent" is a somber, almost unbelievably tragic story that both surprised and dismayed me. Like most nominally Irish-Americans, I thought of the Irish potato famine of 1847-1949 as a natural disaster. To find that it was in fact fostered and flamed by a ruthless inhumanity whose brutality and religious intolerance wouldn't be seen again until The Holocaust a century later was difficult to understand. Enis wraps the horrible time into the story of one family, Liam Reilley, his four siblings and parents. Death wearing the robes of starvation comes to visit their simple village and refuses to budge. The best the Reilleys can hope is that some members of the family will find enough money to go to "Americay," even though this hope comes with its own sadness of eternal separation. Enis is a gifted writer, and her telling of the ten thousand-man march of the Irish farmers to the English Baron Sligo simply to respectfully request a reduction in rents to spare their children is as powerful as the march is clearly futile. Sometimes the anguish and pain of the Reilleys can seem relentless, and the occasional kiss or laugh would have been welcome, as would have been the rare victory, no matter how small or fleeting. But historical novels must first be historical, and there were no victories when Ireland fell silent. Jack Shakely president emeritus California Community Foundation 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. you can imagine that there aren't many happy moments in the story By Megan 'When Ireland Fell Silent' is a detailed account of the Irish Potato Famine told through the eyes of the O'Reilley Family. This is a relentlessly sorrowful tale. I knew the broad-strokes of the Irish Potato Famine, but the details left me breathless. With this as the backdrop of the novel, you can imagine that there aren't many happy moments in the story. For me, by the end it was a bit overwhelming, especially as the pain of the O'Reilley Family builds to almost an unbearable point. I would highly recommend this tale to anyone who is interested in this point of Irish history.

It is 1845 and eighteen-year-old Liam Reilly has no idea that his world is about to be shattered. He cherishes County Mayo with its beauty and close family even though life is hard. As tenants, the Reilly family grows grain to pay high rent to the English landlord while they eat mainly potatoes. He and other Irish are not aware that for the last twenty years, the British government has been urging landlords to evict tenants in order to provide pastures for ranching. It wants Ireland to produce fresh meat and get grain from more distant colonies like British Canada. Despite this plan, most landlords still have tenants growing grain, but some are starting to evict. Liam still hopes for rights and a better life, especially when he meets the beautiful Colleen at a wedding in nearby Ballinglass. Terror strikes her village when her landlord razes it to the ground to create pasture! Her family is forced to the dreaded workhouse, and thinking he sees her at a high window, Liam prays she can survive. To earn passage money to America, friends from Ballinglass go to England. Niall, Liam's older brother, goes with them and when they return, he announces that he too is emigrating. The devastated family plans a Feast of Departure, knowing this goodbye is forever. The music and forced gaiety give way to sorrow as his mother hysterically clings to Niall. Six months pass with no word and the family worries. A partial blight on potatoes the year before has left many starving and Liam frets as the family shares dwindling supplies with beggars. Turf cutting, harvest, and roof thatching distract Liam until one dawn in August, he hears the door open and Mother's scream. Horrified, he rushes out to plants consumed by fungus. Potatoes everywhere are ruined and starvation spreads. People gather to write petitions, begging for assistance, but high government officials in London refuse to interfere and send more soldiers to guard convoys taking food to port. Liam and his father risk arrest and organize thousands in a peaceful march to ask their landlord for mercy. Marching home, they pass a convoy of soldiers guarding food being taken to port. Soon after, Liam hears distant shots. Frantic, he realizes his brother Sean is missing as soldiers search the marchers for a wounded lad, trying to take oats. Trapped in a desperate struggle, the family pulls together with great courage. When Liam kills a swan for Christmas dinner, relatives gather around the table. But he fears Colleen will die in the horrors of the workhouse. As the crisis deepens and the government confiscates their meager goods as tax, the family is pushed to the edge. Liam and his brother face constant danger from guards and soldiers as they scavenge for food and take enormous risks for the sake of the family. Intense conflict and suspense propel the story forward until at the end, Liam must overcome great obstacles if he is to save his mother and sisters. At 10 Downing Street, 1849, government leaders argue while Ireland falls silent.

"May the sun shine on this book that plumbs the joy and despair of days that will never be forgotten. It will stir readers as it stirred the author's heart." --Carolyn Hart, award-winning novelist and mystery writer "[T]he author cleverly created a family to experience the tragedy and, with gripping narrative, conveys their anxiety, hope, frustration and desperation . . . To read this book is to experience An Gorta Mor." --The National Hibernian Digest "When Ireland Fell

Silent is ... rooted in genuine research and an appreciation of the era. It is epic, grand, brimming with life, filled with believable characters. " --James A. Percoco, historian, author of Summers with Lincoln "The book is not only factual in every detail, but her writing style put me in the cottage beside the Reilly family." --Mike McCormack, AOH National Historian, author of Echoes of Irish History and The Long Voyage Home "This book should be required reading in all school curricula that teach about the Irish Famine, the Jewish Holocaust, and Native American removal." --Elaine Reed, Executive Director Emeritus of the National Council for History Education The book provides details that grip you as you wonder whether the Reilly family can overcome the famine and survive. Toward the end, the meaning [of the title] is revealed through the tragedy and triumph of the Irish people.