



[The Carnival at Bray](#) by Jessie Ann Foley

Quill Tree Books, HarperCollins, 2024

ISBN: 9780063350724 (Paperback)

*Age Range: 13 up (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 9 up (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

This remarkable novel, a Printz Honor winner and William C. Morris Award finalist, follows a teen during her life-changing move to Ireland. A searing exploration of grief, first love, and the transformative power of music, the book—now with a new letter from the author—is perfect for fans of *Emergency Contact*, *We Are Okay*, and *I'll Give You the Sun*.

Sixteen-year-old Maggie Lynch's heart pulses to the beat of Pearl Jam and the Smashing Pumpkins, but when her mother uproots them from Chicago to a tiny town in Ireland, Maggie struggles to adjust. Her uncle Kevin, who happens to be a grunge musician, is her only connection to home. Though he keeps Maggie supplied with the latest issues of Spin, she still feels totally isolated.

When a visit from Kevin goes wrong and tragedy strikes, Maggie knows that she can't let the world pass her by a moment longer. To fulfill a dying wish, she breaks her mother's rules by traveling to Rome for a concert. The journey is harder than she ever guessed, but maybe, along the way, Maggie will learn to live her life to the fullest.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "Every character, every place comes alive with crisp, precise detail. Powerfully evocative." —[Kirkus Reviews](#) (starred review)

"This romantic and original book will be long remembered by its readers." —VOYA

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2015 Michael L. Printz Honor winner
- 2015 William C. Morris Award finalist
- 2015 ALA Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults selection
- 2014 Helen Sheehan YA Book Prize winner
- Chicago Writers Association Book of the Year Awards finalist
- Housatonic Book Awards finalist

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- Pennsylvania Young Readers' Choice Award finalist
- *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book selection
- *Chicago Weekly* Best Book selection
- Texas Library Association TAYSHAS selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Speak on It | Jessie Ann Foley](#)
- [Morris Award Interview](#)

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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