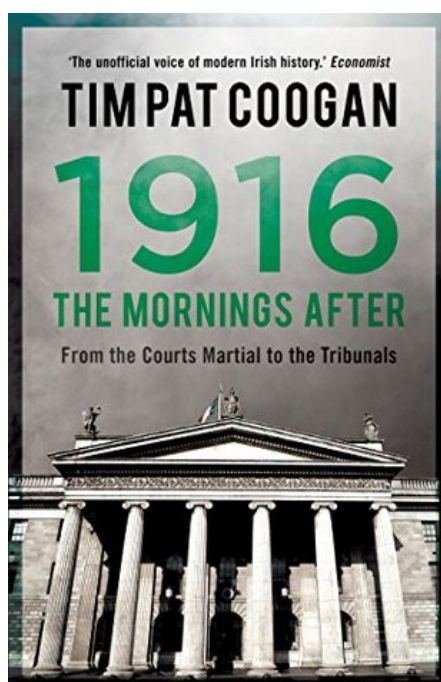




1916: The Mornings After

Tim Pat Coogan

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The 1916 Easter Rising and its aftermath changed Ireland for ever. The British government's execution of 14 republican rebels transformed a group hitherto perceived as cranks and troublemakers into national heroes. Those who avoided the British firing squads of May 1916 went on to plan a new – and ultimately successful – struggle for Ireland's independence, shaping their country's destiny for the century to come.

But what sort of country did they create? And to what extent does post-1916 Ireland measure up to the hopes and aspirations of 'MacDonagh and MacBride / And Connolly and Pearse'?

Best-selling historian Tim Pat Coogan offers a strongly personal perspective on the Irish century that followed the Rising – charting a flawed history that is marked as much by complacency, corruption and institutional and clerical abuse, as it is by the sacrifices and nation-building achievements of the Republic's founding fathers.

1916: The Mornings After Details

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Cáitín Ní Loingeacháin says

This book goes into great detail about the government from the 1916 to present date.

Its also speaks on the corruption that took place in Charlie Haughey government, Patrick Bartholomew Ahern aka Bertie Ahern it will leave you feeling sick, angry, helpless and most of all disillusioned in our people in power.

Tim also spoke about the number of tribunal set up over the year for different atrocities that took place to the helpless in Ireland from the Church, schools, banks and government mismanagement of Irish financial.

Tim also looks into the rise for the trouble in Northern Ireland and what was behind it. It was a eye opener for myself as I had no idea why the troubles started and the stories I hear growing up had no basis in the reality.

Must read if you enjoy reading about Historical facts and also getting someone else prospective.

Molly says

This book has valuable information and it is obviously well-researched but it seems very...abrupt? The author jumps from topic to topic too often for me to follow it very well. One chapter went back and forth between reproductive health to sexual abuse in the Church and back to reproductive health again but without connecting the issues. This theme of jumping between themes happened more than once. I constantly found myself flipping back several pages to remind myself of the name of a person or group. I would like to enjoy this book but I would prefer it if the author stuck to one topic or at least one main theme since this is after all a history of a hundred years—maybe political history, specifically. I have a feeling his writing would be much better within a more narrow scope. One hundred years simply contains too much to put into one 300-page book, and with a very short intro on the 1916 uprising itself, at that.

Maggies Daisy says

The beginning of the book became bogged down with names and dates in such quick succession that I got lost since there was no "meat" or story to be had between the names and dates.

Coming from Irish decent I am reminded of the conflicts that my family went through in Ireland and America. Some discussions especially those concerning the Catholic Church are ones that shook the foundation of our faith for generations.

While I did agree with the author on many of his opinions concerning the Church's denial to admit any blame or restitution to their numerous victims of abuse.

I continued to agree with the author concerning the Banking Crash that was felt around the world, but when he blamed the American's for allowing Lehman Brothers to fail, I almost threw the book in the garbage can. The US Government failed to bail them out, not the average American who lost his/her job while the

Bankers still received bonuses.

artu says

3.5

Well, just as the title says, 1916 - the Mornings After.. Starts off with the Easter rising and continues throughout the 20th century and ends with modern times covering some of the issues Ireland has faced or has been facing ever since. Written as an homage to the 1916 Easter Rising centenary, so don't expect too much history involved although the first part is utterly filled with facts and dates, rather dull and not easy to follow, but then the author goes into criticizing the Church, the government, politicians, the banking system etc and it's there where I got interested in further reading of the book. Author's personal perspective may be too much for some, but it certainly was a great source of information on Ireland for me. And, for a strange reason, now I feel like watching the film on Michael Collins again to refresh my memory :)

Ross Mckinney says

1916 was a disappointment. It's a history of Ireland since its successful revolution and the book assumes you already know the story. It's Coogan's spin on the narrative of Ireland since 1916, more than a retelling of the history itself. As a novice to Irish history, it was hard to follow key players who appear out of the blue and who you're assumed to know. Coogan is also not short of opinions. When he gets to the last third of the book, it's a serious rant about the corruption of the Irish Catholic church and its exploitation of young boys and pregnant teens. In fact, it's pretty horrifying that an organization calling itself a church could sacrifice its most innocent and then cover it up again and again. Add in the constant theme of sectarian violence between the Protestants and Catholics, and his negative views of religion seem to have been well earned. That said, it's a one-sided book, a polemic, and maybe there is only one side to the story, but I like at least a nod to balance. Recommended only those already in the know on recent Irish history or who would like confirmation of their Anti-Catholic Church biases.

Heather G says

It started out great but got preachy and dry towards the end. I love reading his books and will continue to do so but can't fully recommend this one.
