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Liam Horan's debut novel *On The Way Out* follows Louise, fighting to save her struggling shop, and Matt, a widower clinging to the past, as a community project ignites unexpected controversy in their small Irish town of Rathfin. When old loyalties and new ambitions collide, both must decide what's worth holding on to, and what to let go, in this heartfelt story of change, courage and second chances.

Winner of the Gerald Griffin Competition for First Adult Fiction 2025

"I'm immensely fond of Liam Horan's skilful, vivid, nuanced writing, which moves from insight to humour to emotional truthfulness, often in the one crafted paragraph. He's a storyteller of great gifts, and they are all to be admired in this deeply impressive debut novel."

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"We get a glimpse of self-interested power-play which threatens to wipe out a segment of the charm and livelihood of a small town, a street and its citizens, but the solution recommended is not violence, but wisdom and canniness. *There's decency in people once you don't back them into corners*, as Louise emails Matt. But occasionally it helps to talk quietly and carry a medium-sized stick."

— Ciaran O'Driscoll, author of *A Year's Midnight* and *The Golden Ass*

"This debut novel captures the complicated and often sticky web of small-town life: overlapping conversations in community halls, wary bonds formed in half-heated meeting rooms, gossip that can be both kind and cruel. The town itself is a character – a bit ragged but full of possibility."

— Kerry Beth Neville, author of *Momma May Be Mad: A Memoir*



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A FAIR
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Liam Horan

ON THE WAY OUT

Savoy Editions

Winner of the Gerald Griffin Competition for
First Adult Fiction 2025

On The Way Out

Liam Horan

'Deeply impressive debut novel' – Joseph O'Connor



Liam Horan is an award-winning writer from Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo. His debut short story collection, *Second Chance & Other Stories* (Mayo Books Press) was published in 2022. In 2025, he won the Gerald Griffin Competition for First Adult Fiction for his debut novel *On The Way Out*.

A former journalist, he served as Gaelic Games Correspondent for the Irish Independent (1995–2000) and is the creator of the Championship Man series on RTÉ Radio One (Drivetime and Countrywide). He holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of Limerick.

He lives in Mayo with his wife, Noreen, and their two dogs, Bonnie and Toby.