

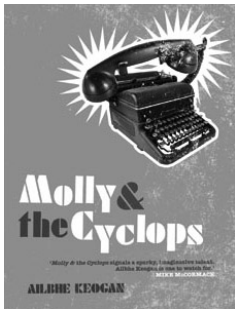
## PRESS RELEASE

# MOLLY & THE CYCLOPS

Ailbhe Keogan

'*Molly & the Cyclops* signals a sparky, imaginative talent. Ailbhe Keogan is one to watch for.'

MIKE McCORMACK



IN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT, publishing houses open telephone lines to coincide with the release of their most popular fiction titles. In the sheds scattered across the city, actors are employed to play characters featured in the selected titles; engaging the endless stream of callers at premium rates. The industry is home to a syndrome known as Trespassing, where actors 'go over' into character, sometimes never to be reclaimed.

C.W. Sisle's *In Search of Infinite Relief* has not been in print for over thirty years. Its story lives on through a few surviving copies and the phonenumber, manned by men employed to play the part of its passionate author. When the contract is sold and the phonenumber is allocated to the brilliant but soulless Mr. \*\*\*\*, he begins to feel the temptation of Trespassing for the first time.

Molly is young, self-destructive and desperate to find happiness. She is given a copy of the book in a bar. Drunk, she begins a series of phonecalls with Mr. \*\*\*\* and a journey that will prove to have far wider effects than either of them can imagine.

This fantastical tale unfolds around the fate of a missing woman and child, leading to an exciting, if unsettling, denouement. *Molly & the Cyclops* is a daring and inventive debut; part modern urban fantasy, part thriller, it's an episodic adventure that along the way riffs on the personal, the psychological and the spiritual.

### BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Ailbhe Keogan spent her early childhood in Greystones before moving to Tralee. She is part of a big brood of lunatics, head count of six, excluding the two lunatics who brought them all into the world in the first place.

After her Leaving Cert, Ailbhe went to NUI Galway. During these years, she also spent time in France, Italy, England and America as a chambermaid, a nanny, a student and a pool attendant respectively. After graduating with a degree in English and History, she moved to Dublin. She worked as a waitress, an office temp, a graphic designer, a fruit and veg vendor, a ferry worker, a web designer, a cook and a bartender. It was during her time behind the bar that the plot for *Molly & the Cyclops* began to form.

Needing a break, she took time out to travel extensively, spending time in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, East Timor, Australia and Palestine. Ailbhe then decided to give up drink, work and wandering to concentrate on completing a FÁS course in Digital Media and writing her novel. She is currently doing a Masters in Interactive Design at Limerick University and is also part of a Tralee-based group called Clubheadbangbang, whose aim is to foster a sense of inclusion and community through art and music.

### PUBLICATION DATE

1 May 2006

### PAPERBACK PRICE

€12.99

### FURTHER INFORMATION/INTERVIEWS

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