



A Man Called Ove: A Novel

By Fredrik Backman

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A Man Called Ove: A Novel By Fredrik Backman

Read the *New York Times* bestseller that has taken the world by storm!

Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon—the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him “the bitter neighbor from hell.” But must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time?

Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.

A feel-good story in the spirit of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* and *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, Fredrik Backman's novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others. “If there was an award for ‘Most Charming Book of the Year,’ this first novel by a Swedish blogger-turned-overnight-sensation would win hands down” (*Booklist*, starred review).

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A Man Called Ove: A Novel By Fredrik Backman Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #25 in Books
- Brand: Washington Square Press
- Published on: 2015-05-05
- Released on: 2015-05-05
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.00" w x 5.31" l, .60 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 337 pages

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review At 59, Ove is a grumble Gus of the first degree. Rules are made to be followed, signs are meant to be obeyed, and don't even get him started about computers and mobile phones. In truth, Ove has been this way his whole life, but he's gotten worse in the last four years since his wife, Sonia, died, taking with her all the color in a world Ove sees as black-and-white. Ove has decided life without Sonia is not worth living and plans to join her in the next world. But a young couple and their two children (a third is on the way) move in next door, his oldest friend and most feared enemy is about to be forcibly removed to a nursing home, and a street-scarred cat insinuates itself into his life. Suddenly, Ove's suicide plans get delayed as he helps solve neighborly crises large and small. Though Ove's dark mission mitigates any treacly upstaging by animals and small children, readers seeking feel-good tales with a message will rave about the rantings of this solitary old man with a singular outlook. If there was an award for Most Charming Book of the Year, this first novel by a Swedish blogger-turned-overnight-sensation would win hands down. --Carol Haggas

Review

"A charming debut... You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll feel new sympathy for the curmudgeons in your life. You'll also want to move to Scandinavia, where everything's cuter." (*People*)

"Even the most serious reader of fiction needs light relief, and for that afternoon when all you want is charm, this is the perfect book." (*San Francisco Chronicle*)

"You will laugh, you will cry, as his heartbreaking story unfolds through the diverse cast of characters that enter his life, all uninvited. You will never look at the grumpy people who come into your life in quite the same way. A very memorable read." (*San Diego Union Tribune, Best Books of 2015*)

"An inspiring affirmation of love for life and acceptance of people for their essence and individual quirks. *A Man Called Ove* is a perfect selection for book clubs. It's well written and replete with universal concerns. It lacks violence and profanity, is life-affirming and relationship-driven. The book is bittersweet, tender, often wickedly humorous and almost certain to elicit tears. I contentedly wept my way through a box of tissues when I first read the novel and again when I savored it for a second time." (*BookBrowse.com*)

"A light hearted, deeply moving novel about a grumpy but loveable curmudgeon who finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. This quirky debut is a thoughtful and charming exploration of the impact one life has on countless others—and an absolute delight." (*CBS Local*)

"*A Man Called Ove* is exquisite. The lyrical language is the confetti thrown liberally throughout this celebration-of-life story, adding sparkle and color to an already spectacular party. Backman's characters feel so authentic that readers will likely find analogues living in their own neighborhoods." (*Shelf Awareness* (starred review))

"Readers seeking feel-good tales with a message will rave about the rantings of this solitary old man with a singular outlook. If there was an award for 'Most Charming Book of the Year,' this first novel by a Swedish blogger-turned-overnight-sensation would win hands down." (*Booklist, Starred Review*)

“A funny crowd-pleaser that serves up laughs to accompany a thoughtful reflection on loss and love... The author writes with winning charm.” (*Publishers Weekly, starred review*)

“This charming debut novel by Backman should find a ready audience with English-language readers... hysterically funny... wry descriptions, excellent pacing... In the contest of Most Winning Combination, it would be hard to beat grumpy Ove and his hidden, generous heart.” (*Kirkus Reviews*)

“Poignant and unpredictable, Backman’s book is filled with many twists and turns, as well as enjoyable characters and humorous situations.” (*Columbia Tribune (Missouri)*)

"There are characters who amuse us, and stories that touch us. But this character and his story do even more: A Man Called Ove makes us think about who we are and how we want to live our lives. A Man Called Ove seems deceptively simple at the start, yet Frederik Backman packs a lifetime's worth of hilarity and heartbreak into this novel. Even the most crusty curmudgeon will love Ove!" (Lois Leveen, author of *Juliet's Nurse* and *The Secrets of Mary Bowser*)

“One of the most moving novels I have read this year. I defy anyone to read this book and look at a quiet withdrawn person the same way ever again.” (*Cayacosta Reviews*)

About the Author

Fredrik Backman is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Man Called Ove*, *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry*, *Britt-Marie Was Here*, *Beartown*, as well as a novella, *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer*. His books are published in more than thirty-five countries. He lives in Stockholm, Sweden, with his wife and two children. His new novel, *Beartown*, will be published in April 2017.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Walter Jones:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or even goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They may be reading whatever they take because their hobby will be reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book after they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will want this A Man Called Ove: A Novel.

Steven Murray:

As people who live in the modest era should be update about what going on or information even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to you is you don't know which you should start with. This A Man Called Ove: A Novel is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Keith Kemp:

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