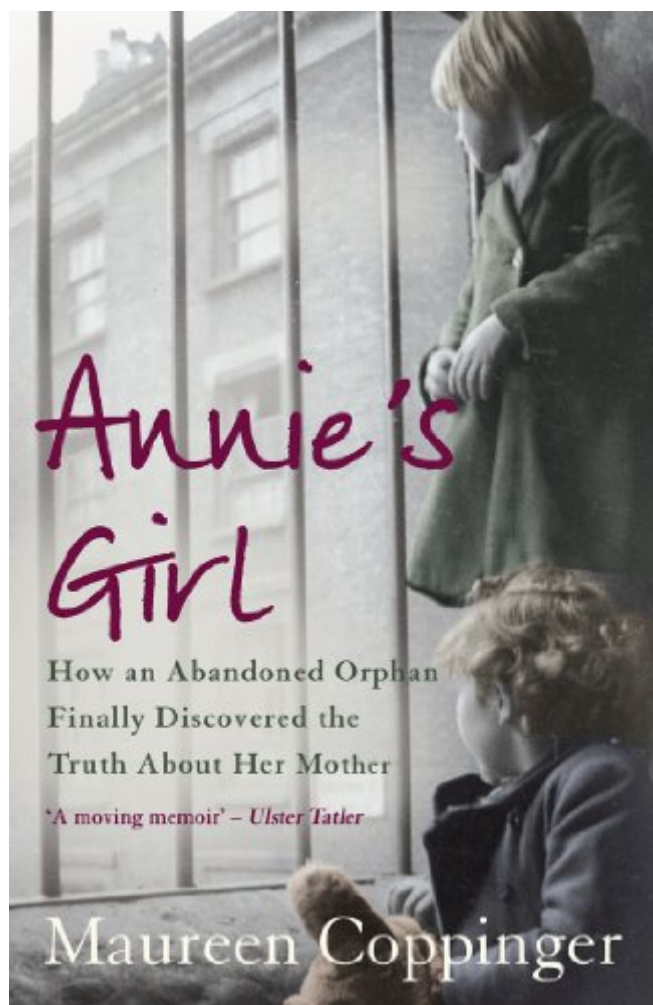


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# Annie's Girl: How An Abandoned Orphan Finally Discovered The Truth About Her Mother



## Synopsis

The shocking but ultimately uplifting life story of an Irish woman who endured 13 years of cruelty and injustice in an orphanage. Maureen Coppinger's earliest memory is of watching the woman she believed to be her mother walk away and abandon her to the care of the nuns at one of Ireland's notorious industrial schools. She was just three years old. She remained in the orphanage until the age of 16, subjected to cruelty and neglect, and starved of love and affection. It was an environment from which no one emerged unscathed. Throughout these tormented years, Maureen dreamed only of escape, and when she was contacted again by her mammy she believed all her dreams were about to come true. Life in the outside world brought its own challenges, however, and Maureen was thrown into turmoil when she discovered that the truth about her past was more murky than she had ever realised. *Annie's Girl* stands apart as a poignant testimony to the resilience of the human heart. This touching and evocative memoir is the incredible story of an illegitimate industrial-school survivor's profound struggle to overcome a shame-filled past and solve the mystery of her origins. Maureen Coppinger emigrated to Canada in 1955, where she married and raised three sons. She worked as a school secretary for 25 years before retiring in 1994 and now spends her leisure time as a volunteer for the Galway Association.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Annie's Girl, was an interesting memoir. I just wish I would've come across it sooner, I did a little digging on the author and she passed in 2014. I do highly recommend this book to anyone looking for a more intimate sentimental memoir. It's a funny, sad, and honest inside view growing up an orphan and wanting to fight for a better life.

I was one of the village girls who attended the orphanage some ten years after Maureen left. This book confirmed my worst fears of life inside those high walls. Happy that the author found a good life later on and met nice people who helped her with that.

The author illustrates perfectly what life was like for an orphan growing up in Ireland. It's touching and honest, and the candor with which the story is told not only makes this an easy read, but also conveys a sense of familiarity. Despite the fact that this is a very personal account, you get the impression that this is exactly the way she she would tell the tale of her life were you to sit down with her and hear it first-hand.

This was a good book, but was like reading a novel, I only like non fiction. So if this was a true story, it did not read like one. I finished reading it, but would have been happier with a true story.

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