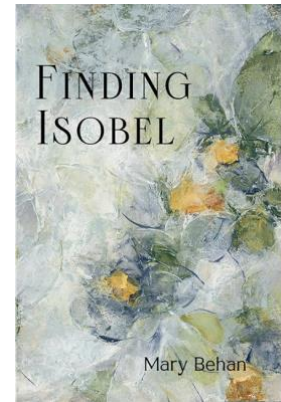


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Behan Releases Companion to Award-Winning Novel

**“Behan’s writing is quietly gripping and authentic.”**

In Mary Behan’s recently released novel, “Finding Isobel,” we follow the extraordinary journey of a young woman named Isobel Babić, whose life takes an unexpected turn after the death of Maggie O’Connor, Isobel’s *de facto* grandmother. We grew to love Isobel in Behan’s previous novel, “A Measured Thread,” and now we get to know the rest of her story.

For as long as Isobel can remember, she has yearned to uncover the mystery surrounding her own birth and why her adoptive parents have steadfastly refused to share this information with her. Fueled by the pain of rejection and empowered by Maggie’s bequest, Isobel embarks on a quest that spans continents and generations. Her search takes her from the tranquil landscapes of Wisconsin to the untamed beauty of New Zealand and ultimately to Bosnia, where she was born. Along the way, she encounters a diverse cast of characters, each with their own secrets and stories to share. Isobel discovers that the past holds far more than mere answers, setting her up for a future she could never have imagined. Isobel’s journey from the depths of despair to a place of hope and love proves that even in the most unexpected places, we can find the family we’ve always longed for.

The book is already earning praise from the publishing world. The Self-Publishing Review says the book “is a truly moving work of contemporary fiction.” Kathy Steffen, author of the award-winning “Spirit of the River” series says that “‘Finding Isobel’ goes beyond a riveting, page-turning story to explore what it means to be a parent, a child, and the effects that secrets and decisions cause throughout lives. As we journey along with Isobel, we discover how the past (real and perceived) can influence the future, but more...how to find the strength to move beyond and create an authentic, meaningful life.” And Bookview says, “This delicately crafted tale of love and loss packs an emotional punch.”

A former professor of neuroscience, Mary Behan, now retired, devotes her time to writing fiction, memoir, and short stories. Her first book, “Abbey Girls,” is a memoir she wrote with her sister, Valerie Behan, about their childhood in Ireland. Her first novel, “A Measured Thread,” set in Wisconsin and Ireland, was named a Top 100 Indie Book in 2020, a finalist in the Page Turner Awards, and an eLit medal winner. “Kernels,” a collection of short stories, was published in 2021. Her stories have been published in the *Irish Literary Journal* and *Crossways* and received Honorable Mention in the *Writer’s Digest* Writing Competition. Mary lives with her husband in the Driftless Area of southwest Wisconsin.

“Finding Isobel” is available in both ebook and paperback, with the audiobook set to release this spring. Learn more at the author’s website at [mvbehan.com](http://mvbehan.com).