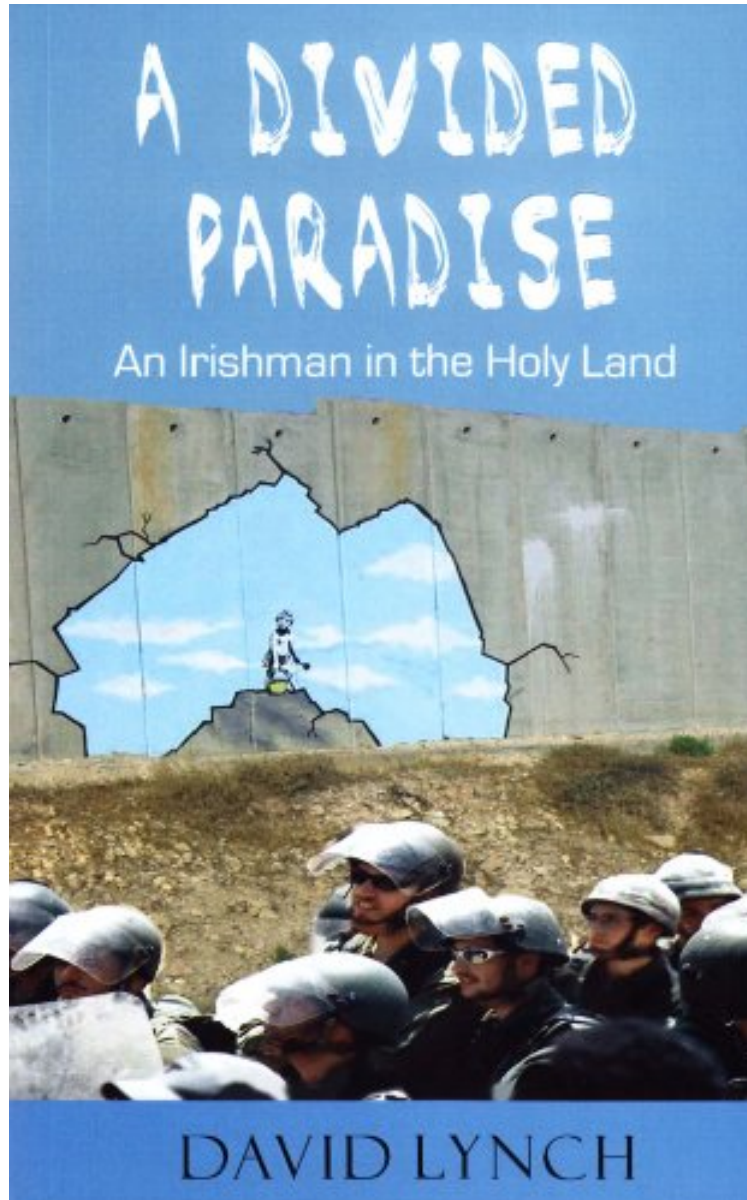


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## A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land

*David Lynch*

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**David Lynch : A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Get a real feel for the situation in Israel and Palestine By cub104 Can I recommend this superb book to anyone interested in world politics and particularly the Middle East, the fulcrum of

world politics for many decades now. Written with an honest insight, it manages to encapsulate the writer's own evolving frailties and somehow, uses them to illuminate the evolution of the frailties that are Israel and Palestine. This book is as much about what you learn as what you feel. David Lynch has an eye for detail and a compelling way of weaving a story out of his real life experiences as a student in the Middle east. While unrepentantly sympathetic to the Palestinian side, his relationships with many Israelis emphasise the complex edge that any simplistic view of the conflict misses. This book shows the many real people hidden from view that comprise this highly charged area. You will laugh, you will feel outraged at the injustices, you will be pulled through a range of emotions as David recounts his time there but mostly you will be transported to a world that we never see on our TV screens, from protests from the inside to Irish bars in Israel. Buy this book - it is simply an excellent read. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An endlessly entertaining delve into a serious issue By Midwest Book Review An Irish pub is not unusual to see in Boston or Long Island, but in Tel Aviv, it's another story. "A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land" tells the story of author David Lynch, and his Irish pub in Israel and Palestine. Written from a journalistic perspective, and packed with many fresh and original insights about the people behind the conflict. "A Divided Paradise" is an endlessly entertaining delve into a serious issue. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An excellent review from someone with dust on his boots By Alex Bell A very readable account of an Irish journalist's personal experiences in Palestine and Israel, and has an excellent account of the history of the region. It has a useful glossary. The book is very well written and entertaining, but to me its main attraction is that the author is someone who has actually walked the streets and has personal experience. Very highly recommended.

'A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land' is a vivid account of ordinary life in one of the world's most contested and volatile regions. Award winning journalist David Lynch brings to life stories from both the Palestinian and Israeli street. From coming under fire in the occupied West Bank, to visiting the 'First Irish Pub in Palestine', to talking Armageddon with young dispirited Israelis in Tel Aviv, personal experiences are interwoven with broad historical analysis. A provocative introduction to the political and personal tragedy suffered by the Palestinian people and the continuing wider Middle Eastern conflict.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Journalist Lynch's mission to unashamedly and sympathetically chronicle... the tragic Palestinian nation and its defiant, inspiring people is fulfilled in a heartrending account of the suffering of Palestinians under occupation. Lynch (Radical Politics in Modern Ireland) has not only covered the big events but also lived in the West Bank, witnessing up close Israeli raids, checkpoint lines and agitated soldiers and the privations created by Israel's 250-mile-long security wall. He impressively and seamlessly combines storytelling with reportage and fact-finding. His failures are thus all the more unfortunate: the book's scarce sourcing ensures that only those with a background in the field can judge his findings, and in his efforts to validate the Palestinian narrative, he too easily dismisses the Israeli counterpart. While Lynch takes pains to acknowledge Israeli humanity, calling Zionism a colonizing project like most others might lose the book some readers who might have been open to broadening their understanding of the conflict. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Captures the tension and beauty of a partitioned paradise. Lynch is studiously fair in mapping out the tragedy of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. --The Irish Times Writes with truth and energy. Feed your mind and buy this book. --Andersonstown News An excellent collection of memories intertwined with political analyses and history. With a fresh and very accessible narrative, Lynch has enriched the literature available on the Arab-Israeli conflict. --Digest of Middle East Studies He (Lynch) evokes very well the daily toil and terror... The book is a very useful introduction, complete with timeline and glossary. Book of the Week. --Metro It is a searingly honest account. --Trinity News About the Author David Lynch (34) is an award winning journalist and author with a wide range of full time and freelance experience in regional, national and international press. Among others he has reported for RTE Radio's Morning Ireland and Today with Pat Kenny, The Sunday Business Post, Village Magazine, Magill, The Leinster Leader, Daily Ireland, The Journalist, and The Blizzard. He has worked in the occupied Palestinian territories and in the wider Middle East. He recently spent almost 10 months in Cairo, reporting on the post revolutionary turmoil and the Egyptian elections. In 2009 he published his second book 'A Divided Paradise: An Irishman in the Holy Land' (New Island Books) described as "An excellent collection of memories intertwined with political analyses and history" by the Digest of Middle East Studies. He has covered everything from sport, politics, the arts, courts and is a former member of the press gallery in Dil ireann. Currently based between Cairo and Dublin he is working on both fiction and nonfiction projects