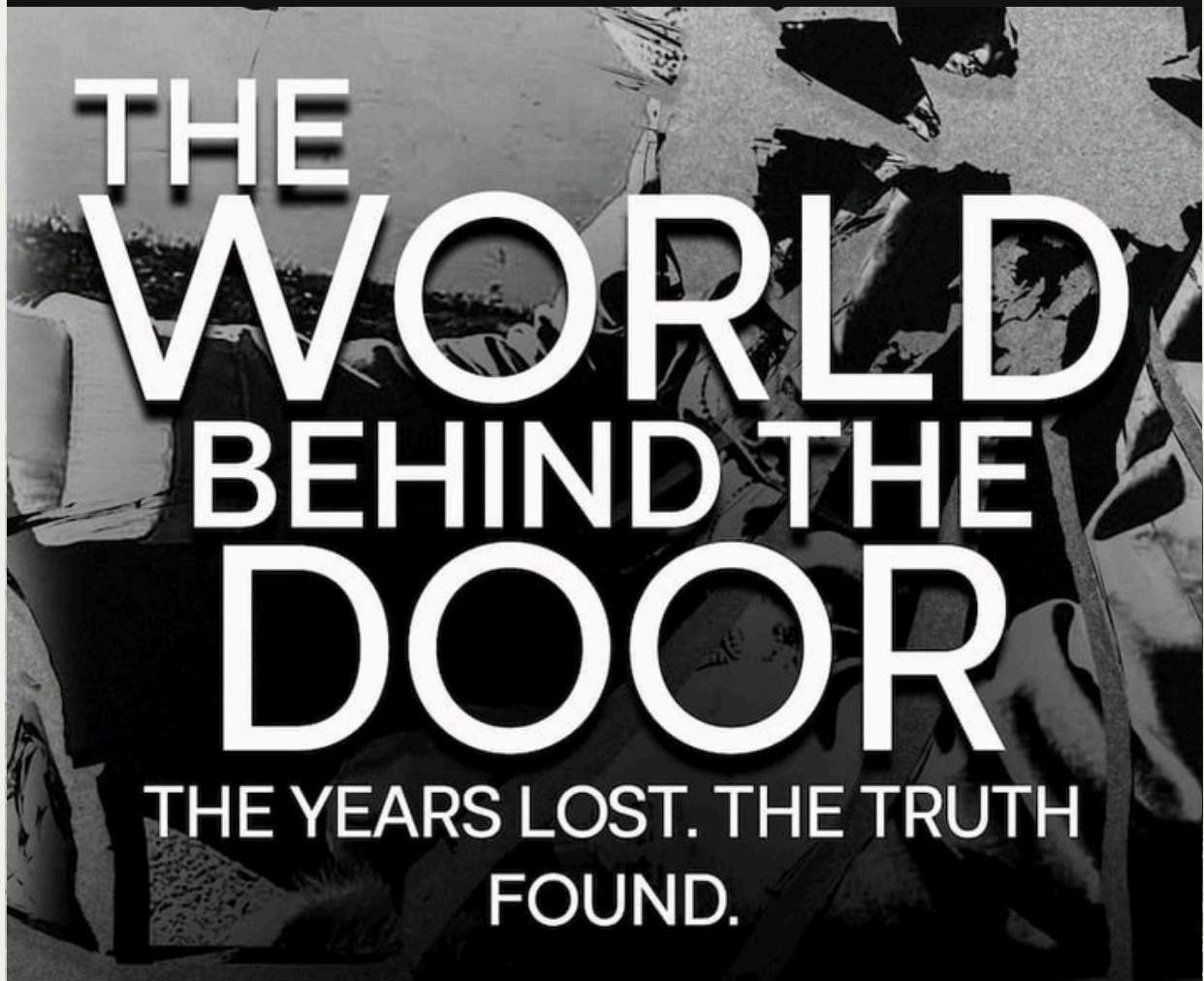


# EXCERPTS FROM THE WORLD BEHIND THE DOOR

A MEMOIR OF MEMORY, SURVIVAL  
& RENEWAL BY DERRY O'LEARY

Launch date: January 11, 2026





## ABOUT THE BOOK

A MEMOIR OF MEMORY, SURVIVAL, AND RENEWAL  
MY MEMOIR THE WORLD BEHIND THE DOOR WILL BE  
RELEASED WORLDWIDE ON JANUARY 11, 2026. PRE-ORDERS  
ARE NOW OPEN — SECURE YOUR COPY TODAY!

WHEN MEMORY SHATTERS, HOW DO YOU PUT  
THE PIECES BACK TOGETHER? FOR MOST OF HIS  
LIFE, DERRY O'LEARY LIVED WITHOUT KNOWING  
THE TRUTH. MISDIAGNOSED AS A CHILD, HE  
SLIPPED INTO A COMA, SURVIVED A BRAIN  
TUMOUR, AND AWOKE TO A LIFE THAT FELT  
FRAGMENTED—LIKE BROKEN GLASS.

BUT EVEN SHATTERED GLASS CAN CATCH THE  
LIGHT. THE WORLD BEHIND THE DOOR IS A RAW  
AND UNFLINCHING MEMOIR OF RESILIENCE, SILENCE,  
AND SURVIVAL—BUT ALSO OF HEALING, RENEWAL,  
AND HOPE. LAUNCHING JANUARY 2026, IT IS A  
TESTAMENT TO COURAGE AND THE HUMAN SPIRIT.

"ONE NIGHT IN CORK, EVERYTHING I THOUGHT I KNEW ABOUT MYSELF SLIPPED AWAY."

## — ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**DERRY O'LEARY**

Born in Cork, Ireland, Derry O'Leary grew up in a world shaped by silence and survival. An undiagnosed brain tumour led to years of debilitating seizures, followed by surgery that resulted in a coma and profound memory loss.

Over twelve years, Derry painstakingly rebuilt his life — relearning language, relationships, and identity. Today he lives in Granada, Spain, where he writes about resilience, healing, and what it means to begin again.

The World Behind the Door is his first book, a memoir that speaks to anyone who has ever felt broken, lost, or in search of themselves.



**BELOW ARE TWO VERSIONS OF AN EXCERPT FROM THE  
MEMOIR — ONE CONDENSED FOR SHORT MEDIA SLOTS,  
ONE FULLER FOR REVIEWERS.**

**SHORT EXCERPT (TEASER)**

Wheels rattled beneath me. Voices above my head — calm, firm, urgent. “Get him down to Neuro.” Another voice asked, “Was this one witnessed?” The straps at my wrists held me gently but firmly, keeping me from falling. I could smell floor cleaner, warm plastic tubing, something like overcooked food from a distant ward kitchen. Then came the drop — that deep, sudden falling inside. My hands twitched first. My legs jerked. “He’s seizing again.” Noise. Rushed steps. Someone trying to calm me. Then — blackness.

**READ THE FULL VERSION**

FOR THE COMPLETE EXCERPTS AND MORE OF THE STORY, VISIT:

**[[READ FULL EXCERPTS PDF](#)]**

**LONGER EXCERPT (PREVIEW)**

When I came to, I was told it had been a seizure. My first. But not my last. In the months that followed, my world shrank to appointments and waiting rooms — doctors’ offices, white coats, small talk about big things. There was relief at having a diagnosis, but fear, too. I learned how to follow instructions, to sit still beneath scanners, to smile at nurses who didn’t quite know what to make of me. Looking back, that was the beginning of a different kind of education — one that had nothing to do with exams. It was about endurance, patience, and hope that wavered but didn’t die. I kept going because that’s all I knew how to do. One bus stop, one handshake, one uncertain smile at a doctor who promised that this time might be different.

**READ THE FULL VERSION**

FOR THE COMPLETE EXCERPTS AND MORE OF THE STORY, VISIT:

**[[READ FULL EXCERPTS PDF](#)]**



## ***Suggested Interview Angles***

- **Surviving the impossible:** Twelve years of seizures, a coma, and the long road back to memory and meaning.
- **Relearning life from scratch:** How Derry rebuilt language, identity, and belonging after waking up with no past.
- **The silent years:** Living undiagnosed and unheard in a system that couldn't see what was wrong.
- **Finding light in the fragments:** The process of turning trauma into purpose through writing.
- **Home and healing:** Returning to Cork after years abroad to share a story routed in resilience and hope.

### **SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWS**

(for radio, podcast, and print producers)

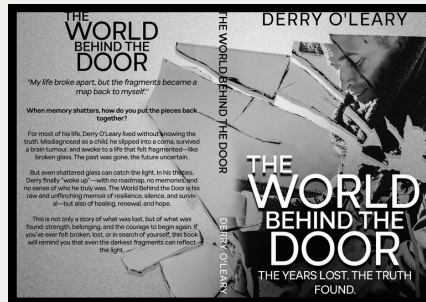
1. How is life for you today?
2. Looking back on everything you've been through, what was the lowest point?
3. What do you remember about the moment you realised you had lost so much of your memory?
4. How do you feel about what happened — is there still anger or frustration?
5. On the long road back, what kept you going — and were there moments of joy along the way?
6. What was the hardest part of your experience to capture in words?
7. Your story is very unique, but what advice would you give to someone facing what feels like insurmountable adversity?
8. What made you decide to tell your story to the world in the form of your memoir?

**DERRY O'LEARY WILL BE IN CORK,  
IRELAND, FROM JANUARY 2 –  
JANUARY 12, 2026**

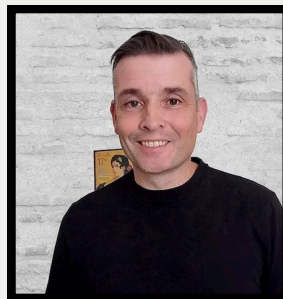
**BOOK LAUNCH: JANUARY 11, 2026 –  
AVAILABLE ON AMAZON KDP**

## WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE MEDIA KIT FOLDER / ASSETS :

Book cover (front/back),



author headshots



🎬 Official Book Trailer: [Watch on Website](#)  
or download: [BookTrailer.mp4](#)

## Key Story points

- SEIZURE BEFORE LEAVING CERT EXAMS AT 18.
- MISDIAGNOSED TUMOUR LEFT UNTREATED FOR OVER A DECADE.
- BY 1999, COULD HARDLY FUNCTION OR RECOGNISE HIS PARENTS.
- CHESHIRE REHAB CENTRE DISCOVERED TUMOUR. - BRAIN SURGERY IN 2003 LED TO MRSA, LUNG COLLAPSE, COMA.
  - WOKE WITHOUT MEMORY BEFORE 2000, RELEARNED LIFE FROM SCRATCH.
- TWELVE YEARS OF REBUILDING IDENTITY AND HOPE.



"RIGHT-CLICK TO DOWNLOAD; FOR PRINT USE 300 DPI; CREDIT: DERRY O'LEARY / THE WORLD BEHIND THE DOOR"

*"Even shattered glass  
can catch the light."*

## **THE WORLD BEHIND THE DOOR**

BY

DERRY O'LEARY

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**THE YEARS LOST. THE TRUTH  
FOUND.**