



# Philomena: A Mother, Her Son, and a Fifty-Year Search (Movie Tie-in)

*Martin Sixsmith*

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**Philomena: A Mother, Her Son, and a Fifty-Year Search (Movie Tie-in)** Martin Sixsmith  
*New York Times* Bestseller

**The heartbreaking true story of an Irishwoman and the secret she kept for 50 years**

When she became pregnant as a teenager in Ireland in 1952, Philomena Lee was sent to a convent to be looked after as a “fallen woman.” Then the nuns took her baby from her and sold him, like thousands of others, to America for adoption. Fifty years later, Philomena decided to find him.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the Atlantic, Philomena’s son was trying to find her. Renamed Michael Hess, he had become a leading lawyer in the first Bush administration, and he struggled to hide secrets that would jeopardize his career in the Republican Party and endanger his quest to find his mother.

A gripping exposé told with novelistic intrigue, *Philomena* pulls back the curtain on the role of the Catholic Church in forced adoptions and on the love between a mother and son who endured a lifelong separation.

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