

## **APPENDIX I**

### **SUMMARY OF THE NOVEL**

Normal People is a story of friendship and love between two teenagers, Connell Waldron and Marianne Sheridan. Connell is from a lower middle-class background, and Marianne comes from a wealthy family. Despite their different social status, Connell and Marianne come from single parent families. Connell who is raised entirely by his mother, Lorraine. He never knew his father. Meanwhile, Marianne's father died when she was young, and she lives with her icy mother, Denise, and her bullying older brother, Alan.

Their hometown of Carricklea in Western Ireland, Marianne and Connell first met at Marianne's house. Connell's mother works for Marianne's family as a housecleaner. Connell often interacts with Marianne when he picks up his mother, but Connell avoids talking to Marianne at school. They were in the same class, and even though everyone thought Marianne was weird, Connell found it fun to talk to Marianne about literature and life. Eventually, Marianne admits that she likes Connell more than a friend. Meanwhile, Connell is still confused about his feelings. He likes Marianne, but thinks it would be awkward if people found out about their relationship. They decide to keep their relationship a secret. As their intimacy deepens, Marianne becomes aware of the uncertainty in their relationship. Marianne decides to quit school and cut ties with Connell. Marianne's departure made Connell realize that he really loved Marianne.

Connell and Marianne meet again at Trinity College, their social situations reversed. Connell has difficulty making friends, he feels his background is different with people at Trinity. Meanwhile, Marianne is quite popular. During Marianne and Connell's first year in college, they rekindle their close relationship. Even though they dated other people, they never lost touch. Connell dates a medical student named Helen. Marianne is involved in two toxic relationships. First with Jamie, and then with a Swedish photographer Named Luke. When apart from one another, both Marianne and Connell feel loss and depressed. Connell is devastated when he hears that his old friend Rob suicide. The news of Rob's death sends Connell into a deep depression, he always feels anxiety. Connell breaks up with Helen after she accompanies him to Rob's funeral. What's more, Connell still does not fit in at Trinity, and Marianne the only person who truly understands him is gone.

That summer, Marianne meets Connell at Carricklea. They see each other frequently, and Marianne is instrumental in helping Connell deal with his depression. They have sex for the first time in a long time, but then Marianne asks Connell to hit her. Connell is unable to do so, embarrassed that Marianne has run away from Connell's house. Once home, Alan becomes violent to her, accidentally breaking Marianne's nose. Marianne calls Connell, and drove him back to his house. Before leaving Connell warns Alan to stay away from Marianne. Connell and Marianne Together in Dublin. Connell is accepted by the MFA program in New York, and Marianne asks Connell to take the chance because Marianne believes in their love.

## APPENDIX II BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

Sally Rooney was born in 1991 in Castlebar, County Mayo. She holds degrees in English and American Literature from Trinity College, Dublin, the city where she now lives. She joined her university's debate team and won the 2013 European University Debating Championship. In "*Even If You Beat Me*" an essay about university debate published in the Dublin Review, Rooney discussed the problems and dilemmas of high-level debating.

That 2015 essay prompted Rooney's career as a novelist, causing an agent to seek out fiction from Rooney. Subsequently, she published her first novel "*Conversations with Friends*" which she had written while working towards her master's degree, in 2017. *Conversations with Friends* was a 2018 nominee for the Swansea University International Dylan Thomas Prize and the Folio Prize. Her second novel "*Normal People*" was released the following year. Both novels were internationally popular, causing Rooney to be praised as a voice of the millennial generation. *Normal People* was nominated for a slew of awards, and won many. It was longlisted for the Booker prize and named the Iris book of the year, among others. Her third novel "*Beautiful World, Where are You*" released in the fall of 2021.

Rooney writes short stories as well as essays and novels. *Normal People* grew out of her short story "*At the Clinic*" published in the literary magazine *The White Review* in 2016. Rooney's short story "*Mr. Salary*," meanwhile was shortlisted for the Sunday Times EFG Private Bank Short Story Award. She is also an editor of the Iris literary magazine *The Singing Flay*, in which she published several poems as a teenager.

Rooney's work has garnered critical acclaim and commercial success, and she is regarded as one of the foremost millennial writers. *Times* named her one of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2022.



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