



The Kick: A Memoir of the Poet Richard Murphy (Hardback)

By Richard Murphy

Cork University Press, Ireland, 2017. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Kick is a page-turner, based upon private diaries kept over the long life and disjointed times of the poet Richard Murphy. Born (1927) in the relics of a walled demesne near Kilmine, County Mayo, he was shipped out and back twice to the British Crown Colony of Ceylon, where his father was a colonial administrator. Thereafter he was moved every two years or so to a different boarding school for boys, mostly in England, until he won an Oxford scholarship at 17. There he encountered Ken Tynan (a bit older) and C.S. Lewis in extraordinary circumstances. One life story follows another in a continuous, witty, ironical narrative of surprising events. Murphy writes, according to Karl Miller, with candour and dignity, for example about personal issues, such as his ambivalent sexuality at a time of legal intolerance. This once led him into a risk of blackmail or prison in London at the age of 22. But dark events are countered by sea-light in this redeeming book. The fear of death from a German rocket falling on Wellington College in 1944 starts Murphy writing sonnets. He s aware that...



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