

For immediate release:

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**A warm and enchanting novel in the tradition of  
James Herriot and Jan Karon**

# **AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR Patrick Taylor**

**“A straitlaced novice doctor gets initiated into the unorthodox world of a crafty rural  
sawbones in Taylor's American debut...**

**Taylor's novel makes for escapist, delightful fun.”**

*—Publishers Weekly*

**“The town is an easy place for readers to sink into...with likable characters and atmospheric  
dialogue...A sweetly affable story.”**

*—Kirkus Reviews*

**“This book is written with compassion and hilarity about a community whose inhabitants are  
as wonderful and loony as any on earth.**

**A grand read from a grand man.”**

**—Malachy McCourt, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Monk Swimming***

A large and overly friendly dog named Arthur Guinness... a muddy path through a rustic field... distrustful and uncooperative patients... these are just a few of the challenges waiting for a young Irish doctor as he begins his apprenticeship in the delightful village of Ballybucklebo. If James Herriot had treated people, practiced in rural Ireland, and had written a novel, you'd have **AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR** (A Forge Hardcover; \$24.95; On-sale date: February 6, 2007). Instead of Herriot's Yorkshire moors and countrymen, Patrick Taylor presents a now-gone rural Ireland, based on his own experiences, portrayed with love, wit, charm, and an eye (and ear) for detail that only an Irishman could recreate.

In the rural Ireland of the early 1960s, young Barry Lavery begins his medical apprenticeship with a crusty, but big-hearted, old mentor. Together with the remarkable Dr. Fingal Flahertie

O'Reilly, Lavery must navigate the eccentricities and charms of the residents of Ballybucklebo. It's a long way from Belfast, and Barry soon discovers that he still has a lot to learn about country life. But if he sticks with it, he just might end up finding out more about life—and love—than he ever imagined back in medical school.

Among the colorful patients Lavery must contend with are:

\*The chronically ill (and also silent) Major Fotheringham, and his equally hypochondriacal wife

\*A shy and lovely servant girl who has recently arrived in town with a secret

\*The depressed undertaker (Mr. Coffin) with the very red nose

\*Maggie and Sonny, engaged over 50 years ago, but still waiting on a roof getting fixed before they can be married...

\*And many others!

Patrick Taylor's longtime work as a doctor, combined with his Irish heritage, has led him to craft a winning novel that will appeal to readers of all ages, genders, and interests. Funny and heartwarming, **AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR** features a joyously quirky cast of unforgettable characters. This is escapist reading of the highest order – perfect for St. Patrick's Day or any other day that needs a little cheer. So pull up a chair and grab a pint; you may not be able to put **AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR** down for quite awhile.

**PATRICK TAYLOR, M.D.** was born and raised in Bangor County Down in Northern Ireland. *An Irish Country Doctor* is based on journals he kept of his early days as a doctor in rural Ireland. Dr. Taylor now lives on Bowen Island off Vancouver, British Columbia.

**AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR**

Patrick Taylor

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