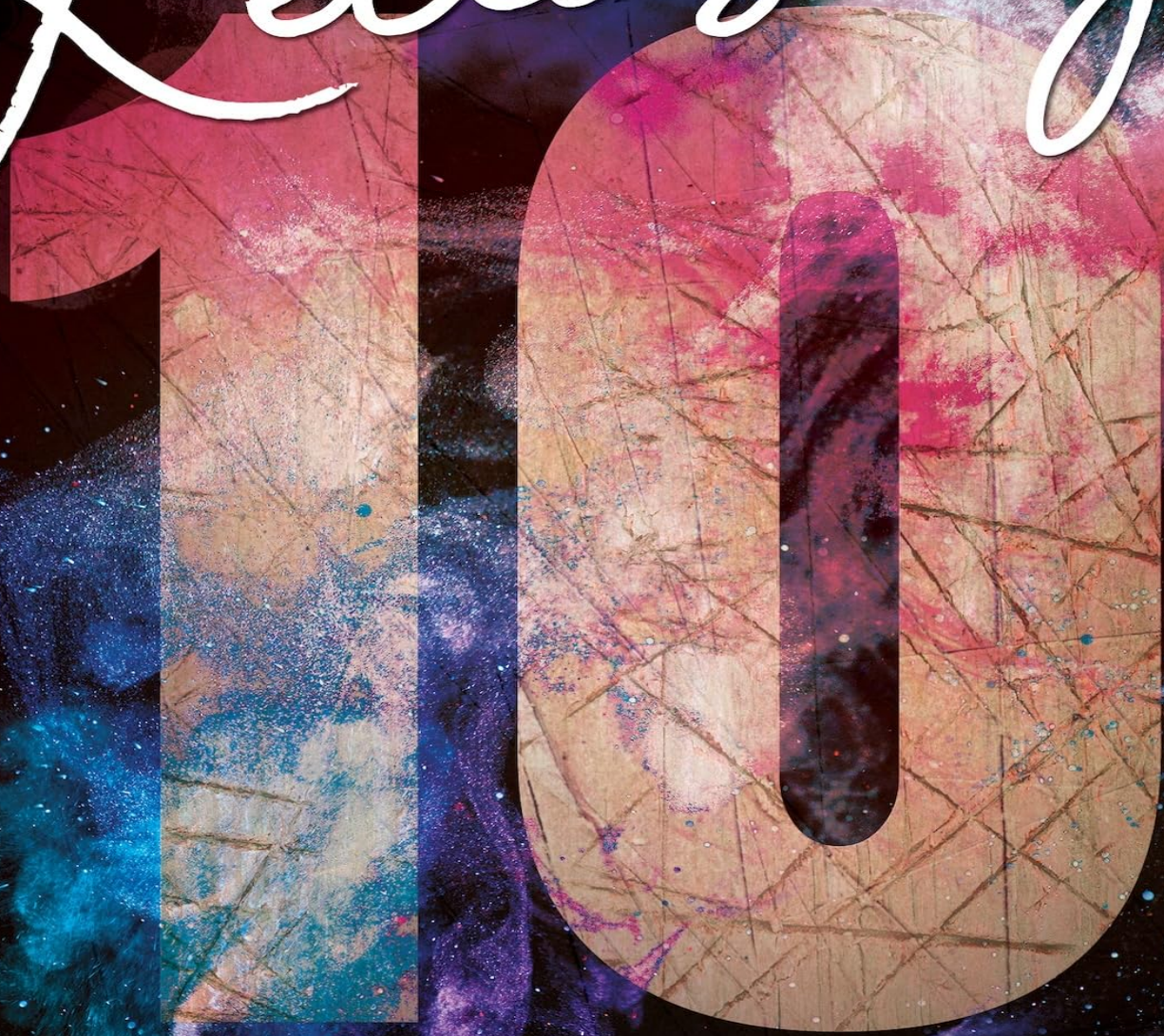


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CHLOE WALSH

# *Releasing*



BOYS OF TOMMEN #6



Chloe Walsh is the bestselling author of the 2018 Boys of Tommen series, which exploded in popularity around the world. She has been writing and publishing New Adult and Adult contemporary romance for a decade. Her books have been translated into multiple languages worldwide. Animal lover, music addict, TV junkie, Chloe loves spending time with her family and is a passionate advocate for mental health awareness. Chloe lives in Cork, Ireland with her family.

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CHLOE  
WALSH**



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## *Disclaimer*

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*For the survivors.*

## *Pronunciations*

**Aoife:** E-fa

**Edel:** E-dell

**Sean:** Shawn

**Caoimhe:** Kee-va

**Sadhbh:** Sigh-ve

**Sinead:** Shin-aid

**Neasa:** Nasa

**Eoghan:** Owen

**Tadhg:** Tie-g (like Tiger but without the 'r' at the end)

**Feis:** Fesh

**Scoil Eoin:** Skull Owen

**Poitín:** Putt-een

**Gardaí Síochána:** Guard-ee Shuck-awna

**Gardaí:** Guard-ee

## *Glossary/Irish Slang*

**a bit of talent:** a good-looking person.

**a forklift wouldn't shift her:** I'm not kissing her.

**a slab of beer:** a box of 24 bottles of beer.

**allergic:** can't stand something/someone.

**the Angelus:** every evening at 6pm in Ireland, there is a minute silence for prayer on the television.

**any chance of the ride:** would you like to have sex with me.

**ask me bollox:** politely no, and leave me alone.

**ask the back of me sack:** I'm not doing it for you.

**as thick as two short planks:** a stupid person.

**ate the box off her:** cunnilingus.

**ate the head off me:** told me off.

**away for slates:** to do well.

**back her into me, Bridie:** let's have sex.

**ball-hopper:** a jokester.

**balm out:** to lie down and relax.

**bang on:** decent person/correct.

**bate:** exhausted.

**beor:** a woman/girl.

**the best part of him ran down his mother's leg:** he's a fool.

**biro:** ink pen.

**bluey:** porno movie.

**bog roll:** toilet roll.

**the bog:** the toilet.

**bonnet:** hood of the car.

**boot:** trunk of the car.

**box of fags:** packet of cigarettes.

**box the head off ya:** I will punch you.

**break your melt:** test your patience.

**breast in a bun:** chicken burger.

**bulb off someone:** look like someone.

**Burdizzo:** castration device.

**camogie:** the female version of Hurling.

**chancer:** an opportunist.

**Child of Prague:** a religious statue farmers place out in a field to encourage good weather (an old Irish superstition).

**chipper:** a restaurant that sells fast food.

**Clonamore:** town next to Ballylaggin.

**come here till I kill ya:** come here and let me hit you.

**cooker:** oven/Stove/Hob.

**cop on:** behave yourself.

**corker:** beautiful woman.

**couldn't get his hole in a polo factory:** unlucky in love.

**cracking:** brilliant.

**crack on:** do something/get going.

**craic:** fun.

**the craic was ninety:** Having a lot of fun and banter.

**Culchie:** a person from the countryside or a county outside of Dublin.

Usually used as a friendly insult.

**cute hoor:** a clever/slick person.

**daft:** silly.

**daft as a brush:** very silly.

**deadly:** great.

**dicky day:** children's allowance day.

**did you fla her last night:** did you sleep with her.

**doing a foxer:** working for cash in hand.

**doing a line:** dating.

**dolled up to the nines:** dressed up and looking good.

**don't be scabby:** don't be mean.

**don't piss down my back and tell me it's raining:** don't lie to me.

**dosser:** someone not doing what they should be doing.

**drive on:** keep going.

**Dub:** a person from Dublin.

**eejit:** fool/idiot.

**'een':** added to the end of your name, usually by older relatives, ie;

Johneen, Jackeen, Juleen, Mikeen, Tadhgeen.

**era/yerra:** dismissing something.

**Fair City:** popular Irish television soap.

**fair fucks to ya:** well done.

**fair play:** nice one.

**fanny:** vagina.  
**the fear:** waking up with a hangover  
**feeking:** having sex.  
**feeling raw:** feeling poorly.  
**feis:** a tradition Gaelic arts and culture festival/event.  
**fla:** an attractive person.  
**fortnight:** two weeks.  
**frigit:** someone who has never been kissed.  
**funt up the hole:** kick up the ass.  
**GAA:** Gaelic Athletic Association.  
**gaff:** house.  
**Gardaí Síochána:** Irish police force.  
**Garda:** policeman.  
**gas:** funny.  
**gas man:** funny man.  
**gatting:** drinking.  
**getting the ride:** having sex.  
**get your hole:** have sex.  
**give us a sconce:** let me see it.  
**the goolies:** the testicles.  
**geebag:** derogatory word for a woman.  
**giving out:** scolding/complaining.  
**gobshite:** fool/idiot.  
**godloon sham:** good lord man.  
**going halves on a bastard:** Having unprotected sex.  
**gowel:** stupid person.  
**grinds:** Tutoring.  
**hatchet craic:** Great fun.  
**haunted:** lucky.  
**haven't seen ya in yonks/donkeys years:** I haven't seen you in a long time.  
**he didn't lick it off a stone:** he's like his family.  
**he got a ration of passion last night:** didn't go all the way.  
**he slipped her the mickey last night:** he had sex with her last night.  
**he thinks he's the dogs bollocks:** he loves himself.  
**he'd drink it out of a wellington boot:** an alcoholic.  
**he'd drink the cross off a donkey:** a heavy drinker.



**he'd rob the eye out of your head and piss in the hole:** don't trust him.

**he's A1:** he's a lovely person.

**he hasn't hands to bless himself:** he's clumsy.

**he's some me feiner:** he's self-absorbed.

**hole:** often said instead of ass/bottom.

**houl your whisht:** stop talking.

**how bad:** that's good.

**how's a bit of your father:** let's have sex.

**how's your belly for a lodger:** having unprotected sex.

**hup out dat:** good job, keep going.

**hurling:** a hugely popular, amateur Irish sport played with wooden hurleys and sliotars.

**hurry up, will ya? my nan's faster than ya and she's ten years dead:**  
speed up.

**I hope you die roaring:** I don't like you.

**I was christened, not pissed on:** call me by my name.

**I will in my hole, Jack Shea:** I absolutely will not.

**I will yeah:** I absolutely won't.

**I wouldn't kick him out of bed for eating a bag of crisps:** he's attractive.

**I wouldn't give ya the steam off my piss:** I don't like you.

**I wouldn't get up on him to get over a wall:** an unattractive man.

**I wouldn't ride ya into battle:** I don't find you attractive.

**I'd rather shit in my hands and clap:** I'm not doing it.

**I'll lamp him:** I'll hit him.

**I'll leave your face like a painter's radio:** fellatio.

**I'll let you go:** I'm finished talking to you.

**I'll redden your hole for ya:** I will slap you.

**I'm scarlet for ya:** I'm embarrassed for you.

**I've a crow to pluck with ya:** you're in trouble with me.

**if he fell into a barrel of tits, he'd come out sucking his thumb:** he's  
unlucky

**if I'd a garden full of mickeys, I wouldn't let her look over the wall:** I'm  
not attracted to her.

**if there was work in the bed, he'd sleep on the floor:** lazy person.

**if wit was shit you'd be constipated:** you're not funny.

**if you fall off that wall and break your legs, don't come running to me:**  
a mother's warning not to do something stupid.

**Jackeen:** a person from Dublin. A term sometimes used by people from other counties in Ireland to refer to a person from Dublin.

**the jacks:** the bathroom.

**jagging:** hooking up but not yet in a committed relationship.

**jammy:** lucky.

**jammiest:** luckiest.

**jocks:** men's boxer shorts.

**jointed:** a crowded place.

**junior cert:** the compulsory state exam you take in third year—midway through your six-year cycle of secondary school.

**jumper:** sweater.

**kip:** messy place.

**kit off/tog off:** change into or out of training clothes.

**knickers:** women's underwear.

**langer:** idiot.

**langers:** group of idiots and/or to be extremely drunk.

**laying pipe:** having sex.

**leaving cert:** the compulsory state exam you take in your final year of secondary school.

**leg it:** run.

**liathroidi:** testicles.

**lifted:** arrested.

**like shit out of a goose:** moving fast.

**living over the brush:** living together but not married.

**lurching:** wrapped around someone at the disco.

**mank/manky:** something disgusting.

**massive:** beautiful

**meeting:** kissing.

**messages:** groceries.

**mickey ring:** condom

**mickey/willy:** penis.

**mind the pennies and the pounds will mind themselves:** save your money.

**minerals/fizzy drinks:** soft drinks

**mog:** an ugly person/stupid person.

**mope:** idiot.

**nearly never bulled a cow:** nearly doesn't cut it.

**not a hope:** I'm not doing that.  
**now you're taking the hand:** asking for too much.  
**odd with someone:** being annoyed.  
**off your rocker:** crazy person.  
**old doll/aul doll:** wife/girlfriend.  
**on the hop:** skipping school.  
**on the lash:** on a night out drinking.  
**on the piss:** going out drinking.  
**poitín:** Irish version of moonshine/illegal, home-brewed alcohol.  
**pound shop:** dollar store.  
**poxy:** lucky.  
**press:** cabinet.  
**primary school:** elementary school—junior infants to sixth class.  
    **playschool:** pre-school/nursery.  
    **junior infants:** equivalent to kindergarten.  
    **senior infants:** equivalent to second year of kindergarten.  
    **first class:** equivalent to first grade.  
    **second class:** equivalent to second grade.  
    **third class:** equivalent to third grade.  
    **fourth class:** equivalent to fourth grade.  
    **fifth class:** equivalent to fifth grade.  
    **sixth class:** equivalent to sixth grade.  
**puking your ring out:** vomiting.  
**pure:** very.  
**pure daycent:** excellent.  
**pure scanty:** extremely mean.  
**rank:** not good.  
**raw baby:** a brand-new baby.  
**Rebel County:** nickname for County Cork.  
**relax. Johnny's got ya covered:** condom.  
**ridey:** a good-looking person.  
**Rolos:** popular brand of chocolate.  
**rosary, removal, burial:** the three days of a Catholic funeral in Ireland.  
**runners:** trainers/sneakers.  
**Sacred Heart:** the name of Shannon, Joey, Darren, Claire, Caoimhe, Lizzie, Tadhg, Ollie, Podge, and Alec's mixed primary school.  
**same mare, different jockey:** same mother, different fathers.

**sap:** sad/pathetic.

**scaldy:** something disgusting.

**scanty:** doing something mean.

**Scoil Eoin:** the name of Johnny, Gibsie, Feely, Hughie, and Kevin's all-boys primary school.

**scoring:** kissing.

**scut:** rascal.

**secondary school:** high school—first year to sixth year.

**first year:** equivalent to seventh grade.

**second year:** equivalent to eighth grade.

**third year:** equivalent to ninth grade.

**fourth year:** transition year, equivalent to tenth grade.

**fifth year:** equivalent to eleventh grade.

**sixth year:** equivalent to twelfth grade.

**septic:** someone horrible/vain.

**sesh:** drinking session in a bar/house party with music.

**shades:** police.

**she'd get up on a gust of wind:** a promiscuous woman.

**she didn't get those knees from saying prayers:** promiscuous woman.

**she'd rip up the floorboards to get a bit of pipe:** a promiscuous woman.

**she'd talk the hind legs off a donkey:** a chatterbox.

**she had a face like a jockey's bollocks, but you don't look at the mantelpiece when you're poking the fire:** she was unattractive, but I still went for it.

**shift/shifting:** kissing.

**shifting jackets:** lucky piece of clothing, usually a jacket, when trying to pick up a girl.

**shook:** feeling sick/hungover.

**shook like a hand at mass:** trembling.

**skip the fancy stuff and horse it into me:** skip foreplay and have sex.

**skitting:** laughing.

**solicitor:** lawyer.

**sound:** another way to say cheers/a decent person.

**spanner:** idiot.

**spuds:** potatoes.

**stall the ball:** hold on.

**stick your mickey in your ear and shag some sense into yourself:** cop on.

**stop crying or I'll give ya something to cry about:** a mother's warning.

**strop:** mood-swing/pouting/sulking.

**St. Bernadette's:** the name of Aoife, Casey, and Katie's all-girls primary school.

**St. Stephen's Day:** Boxing Day/December 26th.

**swot:** nerd/academically gifted.

**take a gander:** take a look/walk.

**that's mint:** that's cool.

**that's the berries:** that's great.

**there's fierce taspy on that fella:** that boy is a rascal.

**the tide wouldn't take her out:** an ugly person.

**turn on the heating:** turn on the central heating in the house.

**up the pole/poled:** pregnant.

**wedding tackle:** penis.

**well, fuck me sideways:** I'm shocked.

**wellies:** rubber boots worn in the rain.

**what's on the menu? breakfast, lunch, and dinner:** cunnilingus.

**wheelie bin:** trash can.

**where ya born in a field:** close the door.

**whisht:** be quiet.

**will you go away with him:** will you kiss him.

**will you meet my friend:** will you kiss my friend.

**will you shift her:** will you kiss her.

**wise up:** behave yourself

**with his lad out:** with his penis on display.

**yer:** your.

**yer wan would get up on a razor blade:** a promiscuous woman.

**yoke:** thing.

**yolk:** nickname for an illegal drug.

**you big, feckless eejit:** you are stupid.

**you made a balls of it:** you messed it up.

**you make a good door but a bad window:** get out of my way.

**you put the heart crossways in me:** you scared me.

**you're about as useful as tits on a bull:** calling someone useless.

**you're as tight as a duck's hole:** you're stingy.



**your wan:** that woman.

# **PART 1**

## ***The Formative Years***

**JUNE 12, 1991**

**Lizzie**

*“WHAT’S WRONG WITH HER?”*

*“Nothing.” Mammy continued to cradle me to her chest. “She’s perfect.”*

*“Why isn’t she talking by now?” Caoimhe didn’t look happy. She didn’t sound happy either. “Lizzie is three, Mam. Three. And she’s not doing anything she’s supposed to be doing.”*

*“She’s fine, Caoimhe,” Mammy said, using an extra happy voice. “She’ll catch up.” She kissed my cheek, and I burrowed in close to her chest. I loved her smell and the way she held me tight. I liked to press my ear against her chest and listen to her heart thump.*

*Thump, thump, thump.*

*I smiled and touched her face. She had the best face. She had kind eyes. They were blue, just like mine. I knew the color. I knew all the colors and wanted to tell my sister that. I just...couldn’t get the words to come out.*

*My voice wouldn’t work.*

*“Do you think she’s slow?” Caoimhe asked, sounding sad, and I wanted to make her feel better because I wasn’t slow at running. I was super fast. “Does she need, like, a special school or something?”*

*“This is not a conversation for little ears.” Mammy’s voice was cross now, and I didn’t like it. Burrowing in deeper, I hid my face in her cardigan. “So please, just go and do your homework. We can talk about this tonight when your father gets home.”*

*“I want to go home.”*

*“We are home, Caoimhe.”*

*“No, I want to go back to our real home,” she shouted. “I hate it in England, Mam. I don’t have any friends, and everyone at school teases me for the way I talk.”*

*“They’re idiots,” Mammy told her. “Ignore them.”*

*“That’s easy for you to say,” my sister said before turning to me. “You ruined everything,” she screamed. “I wish you were never born.”*

*“Caoimhe!”*

*"I'm not sorry, Mam, because it's true!"*

*"Look at me, pretty girl," Mammy said after my sister had stomped out of the room. "Show me those big, blue eyes."*

*I did.*

*"There you are." Smiling warmly, she brushed my hair off my face. "You are perfect, do you hear me?"*

*I nodded.*

*"You are my baby, and I will always look after you." She tickled under my chin and smiled. "And you must never let anyone make you feel like there is something wrong with you." She tickled my chin again. "Do you understand me, Lizzie?"*

*I nodded again.*

*"Good." She smiled again. "I love you, sweetheart."*