

James Patrick Rooney



### **Author Bio:**

James Patrick Rooney is a first-time author born in Bronx, New York, raised in Westchester County, and has been living and working in Northern Palm Beach County, Florida, for his entire adult life. His passions include sports, particularly ice hockey, a variety of music and culture, and his adopted homeland of Ireland. After a hockey-related injury at age nineteen left him a paraplegic, he focused on developing his mind. He began a successful thirty-year career in financial advisory and met his wife Cindy, with whom he has two children, Patrick and Megan.

### **Book Synopsis:**

*Sitting on a Rainbow: A 21st Century Irish American Morality Tale* is a story of severe loss and courageous resilience, financial markets and malfeasances, Irish history and mythology, justice served, and broken promises remaining to be mended. Set in West Palm Beach, Florida in the early 2010s, protagonist Patrick Connelly (aka Paddy or Pat) is a mid-fifties paraplegic and veteran stockbroker/financial advisor at a major Wall Street firm.

### **Author Q&A:**

#### **What inspired you to write this book?**

“My inspiration to write *Sitting on a Rainbow: A 21st Century Irish American Morality Tale* came primarily from my own disability, of course, along with my thirty-year experience “on the desk” as a retail stockbroker and financial advisor in the Palm Beach market. I built my career during the most monumental shift in the history of the financial

industry. The introduction of the internet in the 1990s forever changed the investment and retirement landscape by shifting power from Wall Street in favor of investors, large and small alike. As the financial services industry adapted to the new realities of increasing transparency and competition, my career evolved from Stock and Bond Broker to Financial Consultant to Financial Advisor and finally to Wealth Manager. To remain competitive, my level of training, knowledge, and resiliency needed to steadily evolve as well. The two market crashes in the early 21st century, amplified by the tragedy of 9-11 and the near collapse in 2008 of both the global economy and Merrill Lynch, only added to my daily challenges. My story touches on all of that.”

### **Who will this book appeal to?**

Every author enthusiastically answers this question with, “My book will appeal to Everybody!” So I’ll change it up a little. “My book will appeal to Friggin’ Everybody!!!”

### **What age range would you recommend it for?**

Did you not hear “Friggin Everybody!!!?” I’m an optimist, so even though the book was written by a Baby Boomer and many references will bring back fond memories for our generation, readers from their twenties to fifties should also find great value in “Sitting on a Rainbow” with the author. Especially if they’re interested in one or more of the recurrent themes (overcoming disability, financial markets, Irish history, and folklore, young love at any age, nature, arts, music, etc.), wrapped in a humorous, entertaining, and inspirational story. And then I’d extend the age range beyond Boomers until the reader has nine toes in their final resting place. Why shouldn’t we go out with a book in our hands and a smile on our faces?

### **Press Release:**

*Sitting on a Rainbow* is available now in paperback and e-book formats on [[Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [Walmart](#)].

### **Reviews and Endorsements:**

"This debut novel is full of magic, Irish folklore and history, and romance all wound around experiences of disability and drama inside a high-stakes wealth management firm in West Palm Beach.

James Patrick Rooney gives the reader a great yarn with intriguing characters and a fully-realized protagonist whose defeats and triumphs are attuned to an excellent soundtrack."

-Tyler Hagood, Professor of Literature at FAU in Boca Raton, Florida

**Excerpt:**

*"WhereinthehellisJupiterFlorida," read the skintight black t-shirt just below his beaming smile. This caused Patrick's mother to pine for a visit to Burt's home-town, which caused his reluctant father to veer off I-95 and into the slough of Jupiter's cow pastures and orange juice stands. The next day, Eleanor and Seamus were plunking down a cashier's check and taking possession of the Connelly's first and only vacation home along the untamed Loxahatchee River. You know how those heartthrob things go. The timing was impeccable, if not unplanned. After graduation, Patrick migrated the few hundred miles up the coast to West Palm Beach, where the urban action lay in this neck of the Everglades. If "action" was the appropriate word. He took up residence in this small, manageable city with its "redneck" tropical breeze pace, conveniently flat terrain, and curb cuts in the side-walks— just his speed. Largely invisible on a national scale, West Palm had grown steadily through the good and the bad of the past few decades, thriving in boom times and surviving the brutal busts along the way. Today, a new boom is underway. The downtown abounds with upscale hotels, condos and office towers, prominent theaters and museums, a university, a library, a cozy bookstore, coffee shops, sidewalk cafes, restaurants, wine bars, and one especially notable Irish pub."*

**Author's Social Media Handles:**

Connect with James Patrick Rooney on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/jamespatrickrooney>

<https://www.instagram.com/authorjamesrooney/>

**Author's Website:**

For more information about James Patrick Rooney and his work, visit:

[www.jamespatrickrooney.com](http://www.jamespatrickrooney.com)

**Contact Information:**

For media inquiries, please contact:

James Patrick Rooney  
jprooney2015@gmail.com