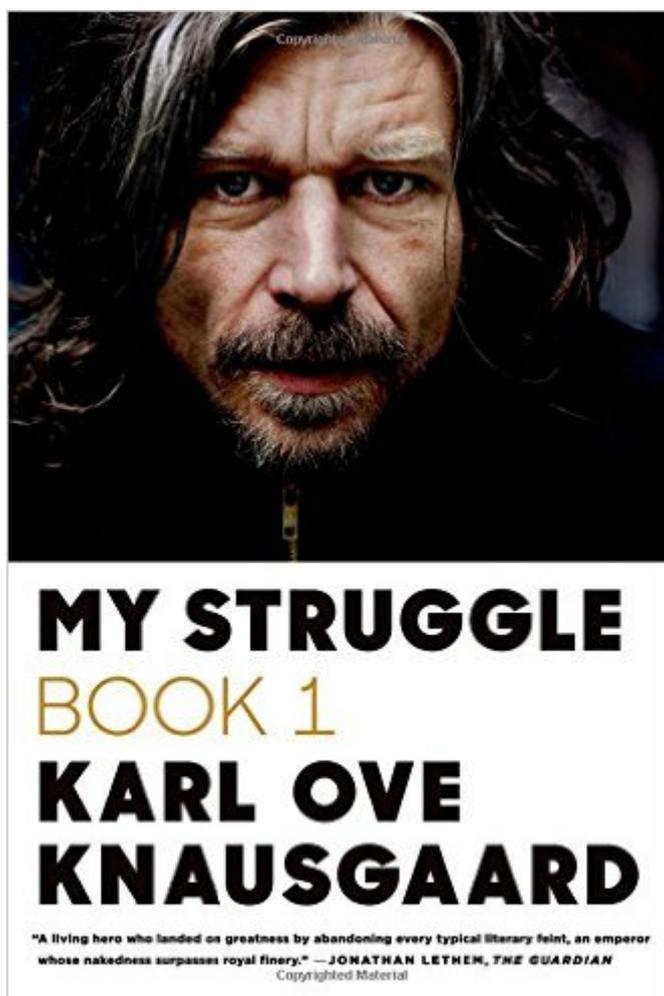


The book was found

# My Struggle: Book 1



## Synopsis

My Struggle: Book One introduces American readers to the audacious, addictive, and profoundly surprising international literary sensation that is the provocative and brilliant six-volume autobiographical novel by Karl Ove Knausgaard. It has already been anointed a Proustian masterpiece and is the rare work of dazzling literary originality that is intensely, irresistibly readable. Unafraid of the big issues—death, love, art, fear—and yet committed to the intimate details of life as it is lived, My Struggle is an essential work of contemporary literature.

## Book Information

Series: My Struggle (Book 1)

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux; Reprint edition (May 28, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0374534144

ISBN-13: 978-0374534141

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (440 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #9,073 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Biographical](#) #1258 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary](#)

## Customer Reviews

Novels are often autobiographical, and memoirs usually have as much fiction as fact. So what is Norwegian writer Karl Ove Knausgaard's My Struggle? It's clearly his personal story, told in a hyper-realistic manner. When I saw him in conversation with James Wood in September 2012 at Porter Square Books in Cambridge, he said yes, of course this is a novel, not a memoir: he uses the techniques of a novelist. But it's something simpler than that: it's an extremely effective piece of storytelling, the elemental kind that is how we make sense of our lives. Why should readers care about the story of Karl Ove's life? It's not that it's in any way remarkable, though it certainly has its personal dramas. No, it's the almost guileless realism that drew me in--all the small details that make up our everyday lives that rarely get acknowledged in books, but which completely resonates at some deep inner level. And while there are passages where the writing is plain--no other word for it--often Knausgaard is employing the careful wordcraft of a skilled writer more concerned with telling his story than showing off his chops. In doing so, he gets to the heart of being in all its

everyday ordinariness. Knausgaard spares no one in his family in this portrayal, least of all himself. We see family scenes from his childhood, a long section from his teenage years that's blissfully free of moralizing or wallowing in self pity: it's simply life itself. But ultimately the book is about death, and what that means for the living. *My Struggle* opens with a meditation on life's end, and the heart of the book recounts Karl Ove's week after learning of his father's death, most of it spent at his grandmother's fetid home in Kristiansand, a town on the southern coast of Norway.

This series starts off gripping the reader: I was enthralled for the same reasons most other reviewers seem to indicate. As the pages flew by my interest started to wane slightly. I became mildly self-conscious. Am I a stereotypical American in need of constant neurotransmitter candy, clearly defined endings, a return to the tonic at every chapter's end? I loved Bolano and a handful of other 1000 page doorstops and prolix jeremiads. I soldiered on, and on, and on. Banal. Solipsistic. Ennui. The criticisms from other reviewer come to mind and echo my sentiments somewhere around the three-quarters point in the first book. The writing is good, clever at times. Knausgaard can no doubt throw a yarn. The voice is honest - with the caveat that it is a first person narrative - and vulnerable at times. He's going to invite criticism: from people whose private moments are laid bare, from readers that have invested so much time and feel cheated, from readers that think his life is trivial, his problems typical, and his achievements modest. There is a fluidity to his writing that dupes the reader into persevering. Had there been technical halts in the writing, discontinuities (e.g. numerous chapters), visual hiccups (e.g. footnotes a la DFW), and other assorted non-linearity, I believe the growth in popularity would have stunted. The title was also a brilliant marketing tool. It forces a self-deprecating writing style lest the author is perceived as pompous. *My Struggle* isn't some auto-hagiography. Knausgaard avoids this with his honesty and introspection albeit as days turn into weeks turn into months.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Mein Kampf - *My Struggle*: Unabridged edition of Hitler's original book - Four and a Half Years of Struggle against Lies, Stupidity, and Cowardice I Can Read, Book A: Orton-Gillingham Based Reading Lessons for Young Students Who Struggle with Reading and May Have Dyslexia *My Struggle*: Book 1 Bread and Puppet: Stories of Struggle and Faith from Central America (Green Valley Film and Art Book) The Battle for the Life and Beauty of the Earth: A Struggle Between Two World-Systems (Center for Environmental Structure) Hippie Modernism: The Struggle for Utopia Choosing to SEE: A Journey of Struggle and Hope Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama (Critical American Studies) That's Not Fair! / *¡No Es Justo!*: Emma Tenayuca's

Struggle for Justice/La lucha de Emma Tenayuca por la justicia (Spanish and English Edition)  
Struggle for a Continent: The French and Indian Wars: 1689-1763 (American Story (Hardcover))  
Battle Cries in the Wilderness: The Struggle for North America in the Seven Years' War  
(Canadians at War) The Struggle for Tennessee: Tupelo to Stones River (Civil War (Time-Life  
Books)) Impossible People: Christian Courage and the Struggle for the Soul of Civilization Restoring  
Shakertown: The Struggle to Save the Historic Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill Terry: My Daughter's  
Life-and-Death Struggle with Alcoholism Classes and Class Struggle in Kenya Deculturalization and  
the Struggle for Equality: A Brief History of the Education of Dominated Cultures in the United  
States Burnside's Bridge: The Climactic Struggle of the 2nd and 20th Georgia at Antietam Creek  
Year of Desperate Struggle: Jeb Stuart and His Cavalry, from Gettysburg to Yellow Tavern,  
1863-1864 Struggle for the Round Tops: Law's Alabama Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg, July  
2-3, 1863

[Dmca](#)