

# Hidden Valley Road



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The heartrending story of a midcentury American family with twelve children, six of them diagnosed with schizophrenia, that became science's great hope in the quest to understand the disease.

Don and Mimi Galvin seemed to be living the American dream. After World War II, Don's work with the Air Force brought them to Colorado, where their twelve children perfectly spanned the baby boom: the oldest born in 1945, the youngest in 1965. In those years, there was an established script for a family like the Galvins--aspiration, hard work, upward mobility, domestic harmony--and they worked hard to play their parts. But behind the scenes was a different story: psychological breakdown, sudden shocking violence, hidden abuse. By the mid-1970s, six of the ten Galvin boys, one after another, were diagnosed as schizophrenic. How could all this happen to one family?

What took place inside the house on Hidden Valley Road was so extraordinary that the Galvins became one of the first families to be studied by the National Institute of Mental Health. Their story offers a shadow history of the science of schizophrenia, from the era of institutionalization, lobotomy, and the schizophrenogenic mother to the search for genetic markers for the disease, always amid profound disagreements about the nature of the illness itself. And unbeknownst to the Galvins, samples of their DNA informed decades of genetic research that continues today, offering paths to treatment, prediction, and even eradication of the disease for future generations.

With clarity and compassion, bestselling and award-winning author Robert Kolker uncovers one family's unforgettable legacy of suffering, love, and hope.

作者介绍:

Robert Kolker is the New York Times bestselling author of *Lost Girls*, named one of the New York Times' 100 Notable Books and one of Publisher's Weekly's Top Ten Books of 2013. As a journalist, his work has appeared in *New York* magazine, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Wired*, *GQ*, *Oprah*, and *Men's Journal*. He is a National Magazine Award finalist and a recipient of the Harry Frank Guggenheim 2011 Excellence in Criminal Justice Reporting Award from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

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标签

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non-fiction

## 评论

一大家子的精神病史，有点《The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks》的影子：先人的悲剧竟在无意间造福了后人。旧时代对女性更是不公，凭什么孩子有精神问题全赖在母亲头上？不存在的爹或是始作俑者（毕竟父爱如山）

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毫无疑问的五星。一个十二个孩子、半数患有精神分裂症的家庭，这个题材的话题性本身就是难以比拟的。作者用Galvin家的遭遇贯穿着精神分裂症科学研究的发展历史，专业性并不强，对于非医学/心理学专业的读者也十分友好。最令我个人感动和唏嘘的是Galvin一家作为人的感情历程，从最初多子绕膝的幸福时光，到其后病症出现并不断恶化带来的痛苦，再到孩子们长大成人但仍需要努力走出童年阴影的挣扎。只可惜没办法翻译这本书。#错过的好书

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#一部精神分裂症研究治疗史。Galvin家里12个孩子里有六个都被诊断为精神分裂症，在加上谋杀、自杀、性侵，算是医学thriller了。

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这本书读得令人伤心。一家子的生存就是一个巨大的悲剧。

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[有声书]

这种家庭历史一向都是最爱，而且对精神疾病一直很强的好奇，所以书一出版就赶紧入了。一家12个孩子，10个儿子2个女儿，其中6个儿子相继得了schizophrenia，Galvin一家为过去几十年医学科学界对研究schizophrenia做出了很大的贡献，整本书也是家庭历史和研究历史穿插交汇，让读者唏嘘不已。父母对患病孩子的“偏爱”甚至不惜健康孩子的安危（最小的两个女儿成人前受过患病哥哥的性虐待…），养活14口人的辛酸，最让我吃惊的是50到70年代医学界竟然认为致病的原因是schizophrenic mother，可见女性/母亲承受了多大的压力…

整个听下来，让我发现自己依然是“感性多于理性”，更爱看故事而没那么爱看医学进展…没办法太有冲击力了这故事！希望精神疾病预防能有新的突破！

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痛。么妹太有人格魅力。

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"we are more than just our genes.We are, in some way, a product of the people who surround us"

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this will be a good companion book of a book on the discovery of the schizophrenia gene

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A heartbreaking family tragedy...

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非常有意思的一部非虚构，以一个美国家庭的经历串联起精神分裂症的科学研究发展。作者也以一种较为客观，不带评判的方式去呈现整个故事。但可能因为多数的采访素材由两位女儿特别是小女儿提供，患病者或已经去世或精神状态导致无法准确讲述，难免有视角的偏差。读完尤其对于Mimi这位母亲渴望了解更多。

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