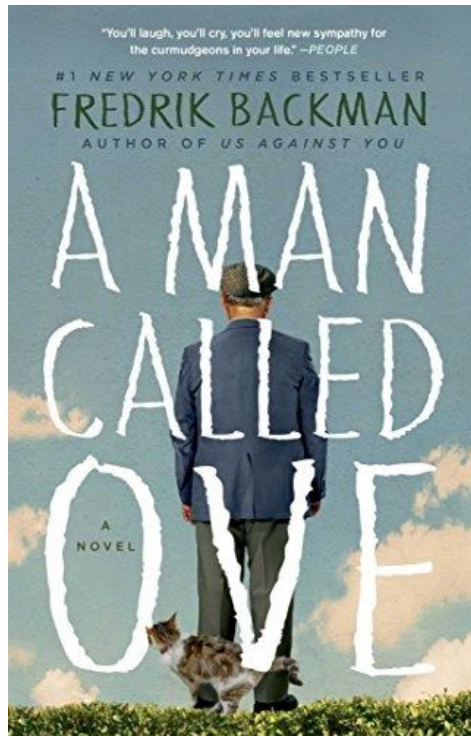




Fredrik Backman grew up in Helsingborg, Sweden. He went on to write for the *Helsingborgs Dagblad* and *Moore Magazine*. His books have been published in more than forty countries. He currently lives in Stockholm, Sweden, with his wife and two children.

Other Works

My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You She's Sorry

Britt-Marie was Here

Bear Town

Us Against You

Anxious People

And Every Morning The Way Home Gets Longer and Longer

The Deal of a Lifetime

Things My Son Needs to Know about the World

Discussion Questions

1. Did Ove change over the course of the book — or did your opinion of him change based on what you learned about his past?
2. What are Ove's issues with modernization? Which scenes reinforce his disdain for the modern world?
3. What do you think drives Ove to manage his life in such a carefully measured and precise way? Do his routines limit his life?
4. Why does Ove "inspect" the neighborhood every morning? What do you think he hopes to learn from his inspections?
5. Ove and Sonja were very different but they were still happily married. What was Ove like in his marriage to Sonja and how did he change following her death?
6. How does Parvaneh's outgoing personality change Ove over time? What effect does Ove have on her?
7. Describe Ove's relationship with the cat he adopts. Why do you think he was able to share a part of himself with his feline companion that he couldn't share with the humans in his life?

8. Ove believes different types of cars reflect the values of the driver. What does the Saab represent to Ove? What does it mean to Ove when Rune buys a BMW?

9. Though death is pervasive in the book, there is also a lot of laughter. Does the book reflect real life in that way? Why?

10. Consider Ove's community. How does Ove become the catalyst for connections that are made in his community?