



Colleen Snyder

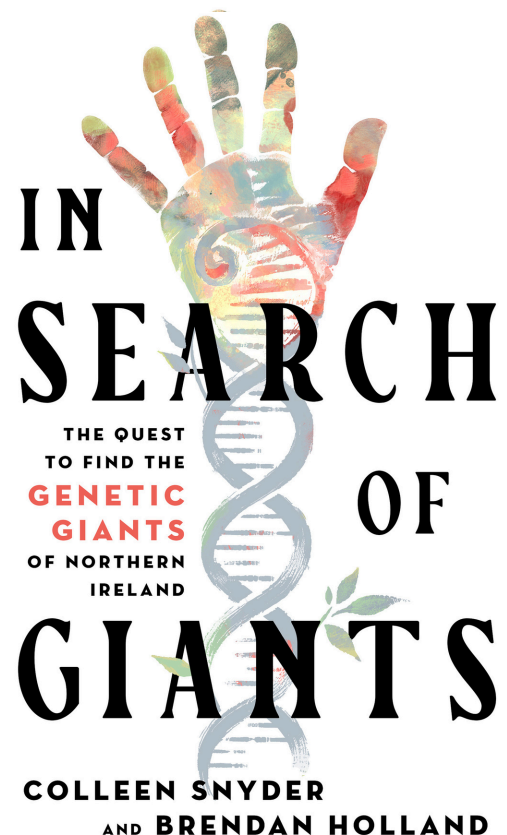
Author | Speaker | Advocate

It's easy to believe that giants exist only in our imagination, but the truth is they are real, and they are my kin because I have had gigantism too.

Colleen Snyder is an author, researcher, and speaker with a passion for uncovering stories that connect science, history, and humanity. Her debut book, *In Search of Giants: The Quest to Find the Genetic Giants of Northern Ireland*, blends groundbreaking genetic research with Irish folklore and personal storytelling to illuminate the lives of those affected by the rare condition of gigantism.

In 2020, Colleen became the first person in the U.S. identified with the Irish variant of the AIP genetic mutation tied to gigantism. This discovery inspired her to explore her Irish roots, learn the Irish language, and connect with others worldwide who share her genetic legacy.

Colleen's writing has been featured in *The Washington Post* and *Destinations Magazine*. As an engaging and dynamic speaker, she offers audiences insight into topics ranging from rare diseases to Irish genealogy, always leaving them with the message that connection and community can be found, no matter the challenge.



Rich in storytelling and accessible to all, *In Search of Giants* bridges the gap between science and history with warmth and curiosity. Whether you love Irish culture, are intrigued by medical mysteries, or enjoy uncovering hidden histories, this book promises a journey not soon forgotten.

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Speaking Topics:

- **The Hidden History of Giants: Science Meets Irish Mythology:** Explore how ancient Irish legends intertwine with modern genetic discoveries and reveal a fascinating medical mystery.
- **Finding Connection Through Genetics: A Personal Journey:** A deeply personal account of discovering her rare genetic mutation and connecting with others worldwide who share her heritage and condition.
- **Rare Diseases and the Power of Community:** An uplifting talk on advocacy, resilience, and the importance of finding connection and support in the face of challenges.
- **The Irish Giant Charles Byrne, A Tale of Science and Tragedy** The macabre story of an 18th-century Irish giant whose legacy shaped modern genetics and medical ethics.



I would love to hear from you with any questions or comments!
Available for speaking engagements, interviews, and book signings.

Praise for In Search of Giants:

"In Search of Giants is a complex mystery tale weaving together 21st-century genetics, ancient Irish legend, and present-day bonds of international friendship."
—Melanie Choukas-Bradley, Author

"This book skillfully meshes myth, folklore, personal anecdotes, and cutting-edge science... an informative and fascinating read!"
—Susan Gillette, MHS-PHP

"A powerful account of a rare condition that connects science with Irish mythology and legend."
—Dr. Ben Loughrey

Get in Touch!

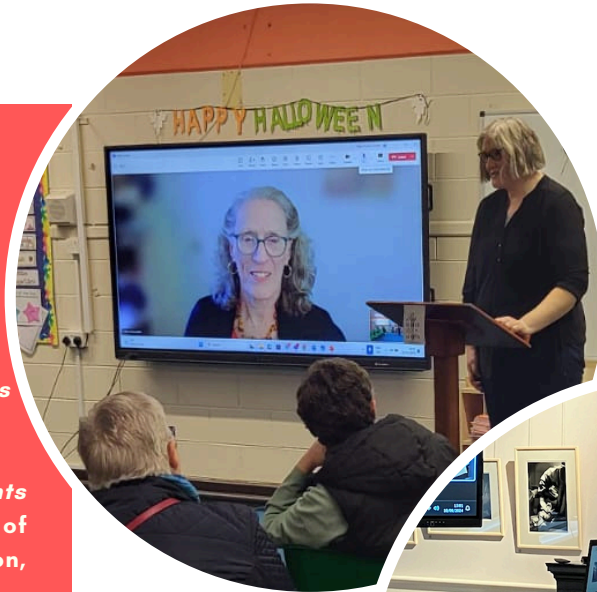
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EVENTS:

- August 14, 2024 - Pre-publication presentation at the Samuels Public Library, Front Royal, Virginia
- September 1, 2024, *In Search of Giants* published
- September 10, 2024, *In Search of Giants* U.K. book launch at the Royal College of Surgeons' Hunterian Museum in London, U.K.
- October 13, 2024, Northern Ireland book launch and presentation, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland, U.K.
- October 15, 2024, U.K./Ireland Endocrinology Meeting, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- November 1, 2024, Ireland book launch and presentation via Zoom to honor Niamh Feeney, Scoil Naomh Molaise, Grange, County Sligo, Ireland
- December 4, 2024, Holiday Book Fair, Laurel Ridge Community College, Middletown, Virginia
- March 8, 2025, *In Search of Giants* official U.S. book launch, Handley Library, Winchester, VA
- October 1, 2025, Medical Society, Eton College, Windsor, U.K.





**Video interview with Julian Fowler,
BBC Northern Ireland, June 8, 2022**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-61726811>



**Northern Virginia Daily article by
Laura Ruby, Aug. 11, 2024**

https://www.nvdaily.com/nvdaily/after-45-year-search-linden-woman-finds-connection-kinship-to-giants-of-northern-ireland/article_5b614ac1-4446-578b-b5cc-3abc86fe9100.html



**Irish/English bilingual YouTube interview
with Molly Nic Céile, from Gaelige i mo Chroí
Dec. 3, 2024**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF1lfWyK6Ush>



**"A Journey Into Ireland's Giants: Myth
Meets Science in Local Author's Book"
YouTube interview, Royal Examiner,
Nov. 22, 2024**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF1lfWyK6Ush>