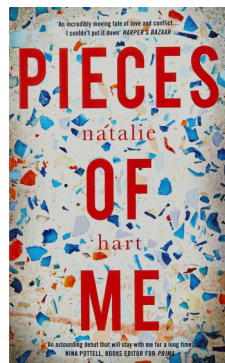


# Shortlist, 2018 Costa First Novel Award

## Judges

Emma Corfield-Walters  
Nina Pottell  
Sathnam Sanghera

Owner, *Book-ish Bookshop*, Crickhowell  
Books Editor, *Prima Magazine*  
Author and Journalist, *The Times*



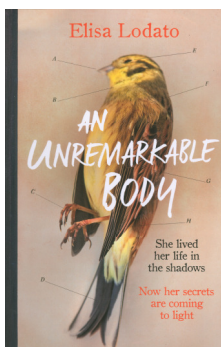
### ***Pieces of Me*** by Natalie Hart (*Legend Press*)

Emma did not go to war looking for love, but Adam is unlike any other. Under the secret shadow of trauma, Emma decides to leave Iraq and joins Adam to settle in Colorado. But isolation and fear find her, once again, when Adam is re-deployed. Torn between a deep fear for Adam's safety and a desire to be back there herself, Emma copes by throwing herself into a new role mentoring an Iraqi refugee family. But when Adam comes

home, he brings the conflict back with him. Emma had considered the possibility that her husband might not come home from war. She had not considered that he might return a stranger.

**Natalie Hart** is a writer, researcher and communications adviser, specialising in conflict and post-conflict environments. She has worked extensively across the Middle East and North Africa, including three years in Iraq where *Pieces of Me* is set. Natalie has a BA in Combined Middle Eastern Studies (Arabic and Spanish) from the University of Cambridge and an MA in Creative Writing from Lancaster University. *Pieces of Me* originated as a short story which won the Write Stuff Competition at the London Book Fair in 2016.

**Judges:** 'A beautiful and heartfelt debut about identity and belonging.'



### ***An Unremarkable Body*** by Elisa Lodato (*Weidenfeld & Nicolson*)

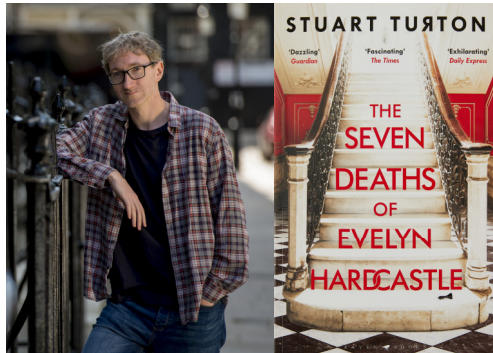
When Katharine is found dead at the foot of her stairs, it is the mystery of her life that consumes her daughter, Laura. The medical examiner's report, in which precious parts of Katharine's body are weighed and categorised, motivates Laura to write her own version of events; to bear witness to the unbearable blank space between each itemised entry. It forces her to confront a new version of the woman she knew only as

her mother - a woman silenced by her own mother, and wronged by her husband. A woman who felt shackled by tradition and unable to love freely. *An Unremarkable Body* reveals an overwhelming desire to make sense of an unfulfilled life – and to prove that an unremarkable body does not mean an unremarkable life.

**Elisa Lodato** grew up in London and read English at Pembroke College, Cambridge. After graduating she went to live in Japan, where she spent a year teaching, travelling and learning to speak the language. On returning to the UK, she spent many happy years working for Google before training to become an English teacher. Helping pupils to search for meaning in a text inspired Elisa to write her own first novel. *An Unremarkable Body*, was longlisted for the Bath Novel Award for unpublished writers in 2016. Elisa lives in Surrey with her husband and two children.



**Judges:** 'A stunning debut exploring grief and sadness with a great twist – brilliant.'

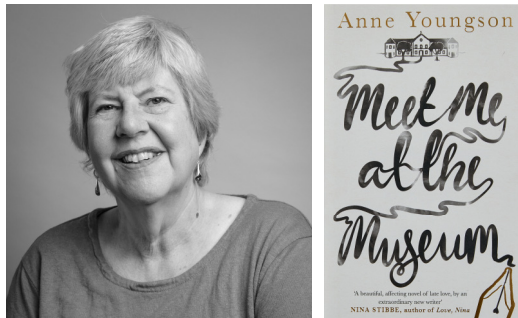


***The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle***  
by Stuart Turton (*Raven Books*)

At a party thrown by her parents, Evelyn Hardcastle will be killed – again. She's been murdered hundreds of times, and each day Aidan Bishop is too late to save her. The only way to break this cycle is to identify Evelyn's killer. But every time the day begins again, Aidan wakes in the body of a different guest. And someone is desperate to stop him ever escaping Blackheath.....

**Stuart Turton** is a freelance travel journalist who's previously worked in Shanghai and Dubai. He's the winner of the Brighton and Hove Short Story Prize and was longlisted for the *BBC Radio 4* Opening Lines competition. TV rights for *The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle* have been optioned by House Productions. He lives in West London with his wife and daughter.

**Judges:** 'Impossibly clever, genre-busting murder mystery that feels like a mash-up of Cluedo, Sherlock and Groundhog Day.'



***Meet Me at the Museum***  
by Anne Youngson (*Doubleday*)

When Tina Hopgood writes a letter of regret to a man she has never met, she doesn't expect a reply. When Anders Larsen, a lonely museum curator, answers it, neither does he. They're both searching for something – they just don't know it yet. Anders has lost his wife, along with his hopes and dreams for the future. Tina is trapped in a life she doesn't remember choosing.

Slowly their correspondence blossoms as they bare their souls to each other with stories of joy, anguish and discovery. But then Tina's letters suddenly cease, and Anders is thrown into despair. Can their unexpected friendship survive?

**Anne Youngson** had a long career in the motor industry after finishing a degree in English from Birmingham. She most recently worked for Land Rover, as Chief Engineer, Defender replacement and, finally, MD of the Special Vehicle Operations. Having taken early retirement, she worked as an Enterprise Advisor to schools before joining a small consultancy team, working on major skills development programmes for a range of clients. After leaving the motor industry, she began to take writing more seriously. She did an Undergraduate diploma at the Oxford University Department of Continuing Education and an MA in Creative Writing at Oxford Brookes, achieving a Distinction in both. Anne is married with two adult children and three grandchildren to date. She has supported many charities in governance roles including Chair of the Writers in Prison Network which provides residencies in prisons for professional writers. She's now studying for a PhD at Oxford Brookes. The creative part of the qualification will be stories which explore how to begin. Her debut novel *Meet Me at the Museum* has been created as part of this.

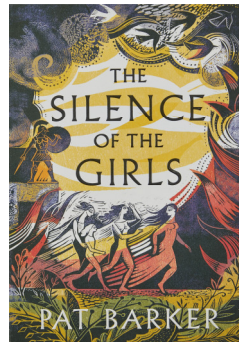
**Judges:** 'A warm and well-observed story of love in later life, unexpected friendship and the ties that bind.'

# Shortlist, 2018 Costa Novel Award

## Judges

Justine Jordan  
Rachel Joyce  
Zool Verjee

*Fiction Editor, The Guardian*  
*Author*  
*Sales Development Manager, Blackwell's Oxford*



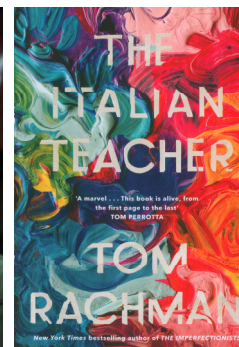
## ***The Silence of the Girls*** by Pat Barker (*Hamish Hamilton*)

When her city falls to the Greeks, Briseis's old life is shattered. She is transformed from queen to captive, from free woman to slave, awarded to the god-like warrior Achilles as a prize of war. And she's not alone. On the same day, and on many others in the course of a long and bitter war, innumerable women have been wrested from their homes and flung to the fighters. The

Trojan War is known as a man's story: a quarrel between men over a woman, stolen from her home and spirited across the sea. But what of the other women in this story, silenced by history? What words did they speak when alone with each other, in the laundry, at the loom, when laying out the dead? In this historical novel, Pat Barker charts one woman's journey through the chaos of the most famous war in history, as she struggles to free herself and to become the author of her own story.

**Pat Barker** was born in Yorkshire and began her literary career in her forties, when she took a short writing course taught by Angela Carter. Encouraged by Carter to continue writing and exploring the lives of working class women, she sent her fiction out to publishers. Thirty-five years later, she's published fifteen novels, including her masterful *Regeneration Trilogy*, been made a CBE for services to literature, and won awards including the *Guardian* Fiction Prize and the UK's highest literary honour, the Booker Prize. She lives in Durham.

**Judges:** 'Blistering, important, topical – an addictive read.'



## ***The Italian Teacher*** by Tom Rachman (*riverrun*)

Rome, 1955. A rollicking party in a Roman palazzo. Everyone crowds around the special guest, Bear Bavinsky, a great of modern art, as legendary for his roguish behaviour as for his wildly coloured, sexualised paintings. The story that follows is not Bear's. Rather, it's the life of his son, Pinch, and what becomes of him. Trying to live up to his father's name, Pinch never

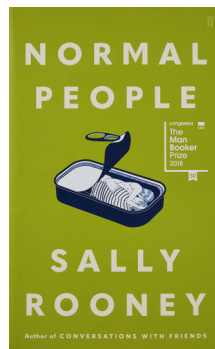
succeeds. Yet by the end of a career of twists and compromises, Pinch will enact an unexpected rebellion that will leave his mark forever on the Bear Bavinsky legacy.

**Tom Rachman** was born in London and raised in Vancouver. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto and the Columbia School of Journalism and has been a foreign correspondent for the Associated Press stationed in Rome, with assignments taking him to Japan, South Korea, Turkey and Egypt, among other places. Since 2006, he's worked as an editor at the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris. He is the author of *The Imperfectionists*, a bestseller published in ten countries; *The Rise and Fall of Great Powers*; *Basket of Deplorables* and *The Italian Teacher*. Tom undertook extensive



studies in painting and poetry for this novel, speaking with a wide range of artists including Grayson Perry, Rem Koolhaas and Edmund de Waal. He lives in London.

**Judges:** 'A hugely pleasurable story, fizzing with energy.'

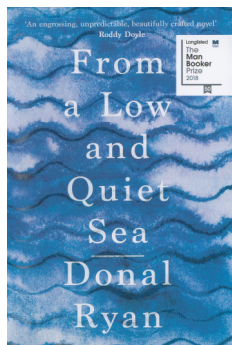


***Normal People***  
by Sally Rooney (Faber & Faber)

Connell and Marianne grow up in the same small town in rural Ireland, but the similarities end there. In school, Connell is popular and well-liked, while Marianne is a loner who has learnt from painful experience to stay away from her classmates. When the two strike up a conversation in Marianne's kitchen — awkward but electrifying — something life-changing begins.

**Sally Rooney** was born in 1991 and lives in Dublin. She is the youngest-ever winner of the *Sunday Times* PFD Young Writer of the Year Award. Her first novel *Conversations with Friends* was a *Sunday Times*, *Guardian*, *Observer*, *Daily Telegraph* and *Evening Standard* Book of the Year, receiving the most mentions in the end of year round-ups for a debut book in 2017. Her work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *London Review of Books* and *Granta*. *Conversations with Friends* was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Rathbones Folio Prize. In 2017, she was shortlisted for the *Sunday Times* EFG Short Story Award. She is the editor of *The Stinging Fly*.

**Judges:** 'Bold, fresh and intensely modern.'



***From a Low and Quiet Sea***  
by Donal Ryan (Doubleday)

Farouk's country has been torn apart by war. Lampy's heart has been laid waste by Chloe. John's past torments him as he nears his end. The refugee. The dreamer. The penitent. From war-torn Syria to small-town Ireland, three men, scarred by all they have loved and lost, are searching for some version of home. Each is drawn towards a powerful reckoning, one that will bring them together in the most

unexpected of ways.

**Donal Ryan** is from Nenagh in County Tipperary. His first three novels, *The Spinning Heart*, *The Thing About December* and *All We Shall Know*, and his short story collection *A Slanting of the Sun*, have all been published to major acclaim. *The Spinning Heart* won the *Guardian* First Book Award, the EU Prize for Literature (Ireland), and Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards; it was shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Desmond Elliott Prize, and was recently voted 'Irish Book of the Decade'. A former civil servant, Donal lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Limerick. He lives with his wife Anne Marie and their two children just outside Limerick City.

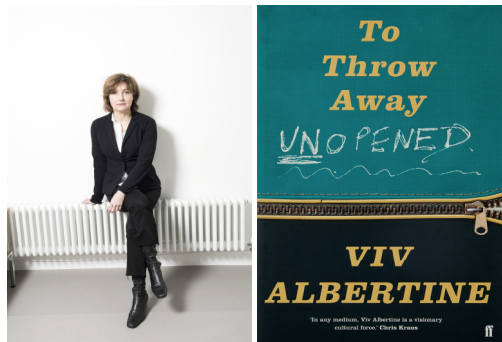
**Judges:** 'Compassionate, profound and masterfully written.'

# Shortlist, 2018 Costa Biography Award

## Judges

Paula Byrne  
Anita Sethi  
Paul Wallace

*Author*  
*Journalist, Critic and Writer*  
*Owner, David's Bookshop (Letchworth Garden City)*



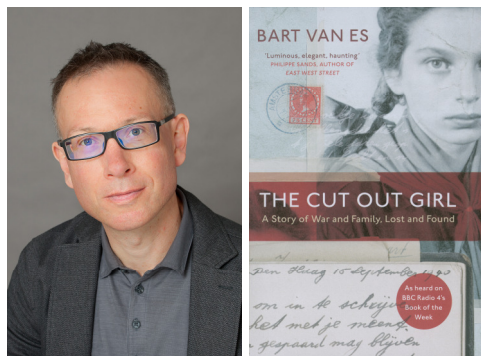
## ***To Throw Away Unopened*** by Viv Albertine (*Faber & Faber*)

Viv Albertine has always been obsessed with the truth: the truth about family, power, and her identity as a rebel and outsider. But at what cost? In this gaping wound of a memoir, she excavates the fear, loneliness and anger that always lie beneath. With the brutal honesty that made *Clothes, Clothes, Clothes, Music, Music, Music, Music, Boys, Boys, Boys* unique, she relentlessly exposes human dysfunctionality, the impossibility of intimacy, and

the damage wrought upon us by secrets and revelations, siblings and her parents.

Songwriter and musician **Viv Albertine** was the guitarist in cult post-punk band, The Slits. She was a key player in British counter-culture before her career in TV and film directing. Her first solo album *The Vermilion Border* was released in 2012 and her memoir, *Clothes, Clothes, Clothes, Music, Music, Music, Music, Boys, Boys, Boys* was a *Sunday Times*, *Mojo*, *Rough Trade*, and *NME* Book of the Year in 2014, as well as being shortlisted for the National Book Awards.

**Judges:** 'Searingly honest, raw and funny – breaks taboos about family and love. A stay-up-all-night read.'



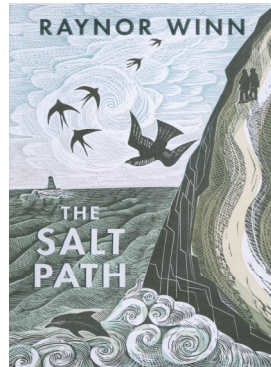
## ***The Cut Out Girl*** by Bart van Es (*Fig Tree*)

The last time Lien saw her parents was in The Hague, when she was collected at the door by a stranger and taken to a foster family far away to be hidden from the Nazis. What was her side of the story, Bart van Es – a grandson of the couple who looked after Lien – wondered? What really happened during the war, and after? So began an investigation that would consume and transform both Bart van Es's life and Lien's. *The Cut Out Girl* braids

together a powerful recreation of Lien's harrowing childhood story with the present-day account of Bart's efforts to piece that story together. And it embraces the wider picture too, for Holland was more cooperative in rounding up Jews for the Nazis than any other Western European country. This is a story about the powerful love and challenges of foster families, and about the ways in which our most painful experiences – so crucial in defining us – can also be redefined.

**Bart van Es** was born in the Netherlands and is bilingual in English and Dutch. He now lives with his family in England. He is a Professor of English Literature at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of St Catherine's College. He has published three academic books, including, most recently, *A Very Short Introduction to Shakespeare's Comedies*.

**Judges:** 'A moving, compelling story of survival. Revealing both the horrors and humanity of history, this is beautifully written, urgent and relevant.'



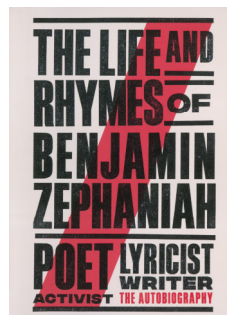
***The Salt Path***  
by Raynor Winn (*Michael Joseph*)

In one devastating week, Raynor and her husband Moth lost their home of 20 years, just as a terminal diagnosis threatened to take away their future together. With nowhere else to go, they decided to walk the South West Coast Path: a 630-mile sea-swept trail from Somerset to Dorset, via Devon and Cornwall. This ancient, wind-battered landscape strips them of every comfort they'd previously known. With very little money for food or shelter,

Raynor and Moth carry everything on their backs and wild camp on beaches and clifftops. But slowly, with every step, every encounter and every test along the way, the walk sets them on a remarkable journey.

Since completing the South West Coast Path, **Raynor Winn** has become a regular long-distance walker and writes about nature, homelessness and wild camping. She lives in Cornwall with her husband Moth and their dog, Monty, still on the South West Coast Path. This is her first book.

**Judges:** 'An absolutely brilliant story that needs to be told about the human capacity to endure and keep putting one foot in front of another.'



***The Life and Rhymes of Benjamin Zephaniah: The Autobiography***  
by Benjamin Zephaniah (*Scribner*)

Benjamin Zephaniah is a pioneer of performance poetry. His talent as a lyricist and storyteller emerged at a young age, helping him to survive the racism he faced growing up in 1960s Birmingham. A vibrant music scene in the form of roots reggae and the sound system culture of the 1970s provided the

backdrop to a teenage life that was, at every turn, encountering institutional racism. This award-winning playwright, lyricist and much-loved poet has been a voice of reason and resistance for almost four decades. His memoirs provide a vivid portrait of an extraordinary life that celebrates the power of poetry and the importance of pushing boundaries.

**Benjamin Zephaniah** is best known for his dynamic performance poetry but he is also an award-winning playwright, a novelist, political activist and musician. He has written several novels for teenagers and is an outspoken campaigner for human and animal rights. He's appeared on long-running BBC radio and TV programmes, such as *Desert Island Discs* and *Question Time*, and continues to record and release albums with his reggae band.

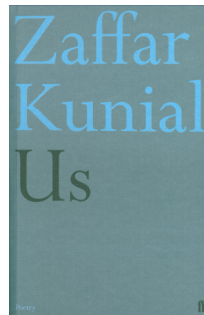
**Judges:** 'Unflinchingly honest, rhythmic and radical, this is both timely and timeless.'

# Shortlist, 2018 Costa Poetry Award

## Judges

Mimi Khalvati  
James Munroe  
Sameer Rahim

Poet  
Poetry Buyer, Foyles Bookshop  
Arts and Books Editor, Prospect Magazine



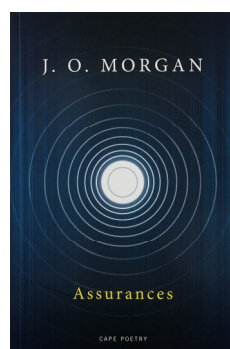
## *Us* by Zaffar Kunial (Faber & Faber)

From the beginning, the poet was a wanderer, a storyteller, an imaginer of bridges between worlds. Zaffar Kunial is just such a poet and guide for us today. Yet his territory extends much further afield than those of the past – through Kashmir, where his father was born and now lives, to the Midlands of his mother's birth, and further north to ancestors in

Orkney, as well as through language, memory and time. Across the pages of *Us* he vocalises what it means to be a human being, planting your two feet upon the dizzying earth – and he does so delicately, urgently, intimately.

**Zaffar Kunial** was born in Birmingham and lives in Hebden Bridge. He published a pamphlet in the Faber New Poets series in 2014 and spent that year as the Wordsworth Trust Poet-in-Residence. Since his first public reading, of 'Hill Speak' at the 2011 National Poetry Competition awards, he has spoken at various literature festivals and in programmes for *BBC* radio, and won the Geoffrey Dearmer Prize for his poem 'The Word'. *Us* is his debut collection.

**Judges:** 'An outstanding collection bursting with multi-lingual puns and warm-hearted childhood reminiscences.'



## *Assurances* by J. O. Morgan (Jonathan Cape)

A war-poem both historic and frighteningly topical, *Assurances* begins in the 1950s during a period of vigilance and dread in the middle of the Cold War: the long stand-off between nuclear powers, where the only defence was the threat of mutually assured destruction. Using a mix of versed and unversed passages, Morgan places moments of calm reflection alongside the tensions inherent in guarding against such a permanent threat. A

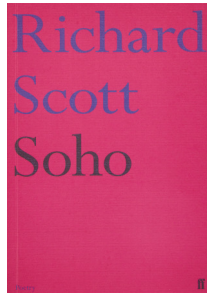
work of variations and possibilities, we hear the thoughts of those involved who are trying to understand and justify their roles. We examine the lives of civilians who are not aware of the impending danger, as well as those who are. We listen to the whirring minds of machines; to the voice of the bomb itself. We spy on enemy agents: always there, always somewhere close at hand. *Assurances* is an intimate, dramatic work for many voices: lyrical, anxious, fragmentary and terrifying; a poem about the nuclear stalemate, the deterrent that is still in place today: how it works and how it might fail, and what will vanish if it does.

**J.O. Morgan** lives on a small farm in the Scottish Borders. He is the author of five collections of poetry, each a single book-length poem: *Natural Mechanical* (2009), which was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection and won the Aldeburgh First Collection Prize; its sequel, *Long*



*Cuts* (2011), shortlisted for the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Award; *At Maldon* (2013), shortlisted for the Saltire Society Poetry Book of the Year Award; *In Casting Off*, and *Interference Pattern*, shortlisted for the 2016 T.S. Eliot Prize.

**Judges:** 'Original, compelling, ambitious, highly accomplished and marvellously sustained.'



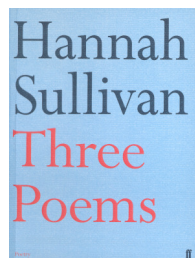
***Soho***  
by Richard Scott (Faber & Faber)

In this intimate and vital debut, Richard Scott creates an uncompromising portrait of love and shame, drawing upon his experience of London's gay community and queer culture. Examining how trauma becomes a part of the language we use, Scott takes us back to our roots: childhood incidents, the violence

our scars betray, forgotten forebears and histories. The hungers of sexual encounters are underscored by the risks that threaten when we give ourselves to or accept another. But the poems celebrate joy and tenderness, too, as in a sequence re-imagining the love poetry of Verlaine. The collection crescendos to Scott's tour de force, 'Oh My Soho!', where a night stroll under the street lamps of Soho Square becomes a search for true lineage, a reclamation of stolen ancestors, a hope for healing and, above all, the finding of our truest selves.

**Richard Scott** grew up in London and studied at the Royal College of Music and at Goldsmiths College. After working as an opera singer and presenting The Opera Hour on Resonance FM, Richard went on to win the Wasafiri New Writing Prize and become a Jerwood/Arvon Poetry mentee, a member of the Aldeburgh 8 and an Open Spaces artist resident at Snape Maltings in Suffolk. His pamphlet *Wound* (Rialto) won the Michael Marks Poetry Award 2016 and his poem 'crocodile' won the 2017 Poetry London Competition. *Soho* is his first book and took ten years to write.

**Judges:** 'Vulnerable, honest and brave in its exploration of sexual violence, tenderness and shame.'



***Three Poems***  
by Hannah Sullivan (Faber & Faber)

Hannah Sullivan's debut collection is a revelation – three long poems of fresh ambition, intensity and substance. Though each poem stands apart, their inventive and looping encounters make for a compelling

unity. 'You, Very Young in New York' captures a great American city, in all its alluring detail. It is a wry and tender study of romantic possibility, disappointment, and the obduracy of innocence. 'Repeat Until Time' begins with a move to California and unfolds into an essay on repetition and returning home, at once personal and philosophical. 'The Sandpit After Rain' explores the birth of a child and the loss of a father with exacting clarity.

**Hannah Sullivan** lives in London with her husband and two sons and is an Associate Professor of English at New College, Oxford. She received her PhD from Harvard in 2008 and taught in California for four years. Her study of modernist writing, *The Work of Revision*, was published in 2013 and awarded the Rose Mary Crawshay Prize by the British Academy.

**Judges:** 'Memorably funny with a vibrant sense of place.'



## Shortlist, 2018 Costa Children's Book Award

### Judges

Rick O'Shea  
Fleur Sinclair  
Imogen Russell Williams

*RTE Broadcaster*  
*Owner, Sevenoaks Bookshop*  
*Children's Book Critic*



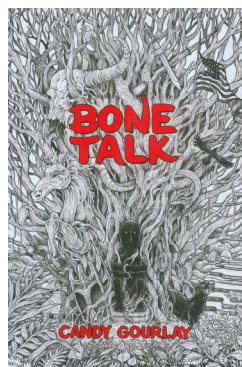
### ***The Colour of the Sun*** by David Almond (*Hodder Children's Books*)

One hot summer morning, Davie steps boldly out of his front door. The world he enters is very familiar - the little Tyneside town that has always been his home - but as the day passes, it becomes ever more dramatic and strange. A boy has been killed, and Davie thinks he might know who is responsible. He turns away from the gossip and excitement and sets off roaming towards the

sunlit hills above the town. As the day goes on, the real and the imaginary start to merge, and Davie knows that neither he nor his world will ever be the same again.

**David Almond** is the author of *Skellig*, *My Name is Mina*, *Counting Stars*, *The Savage*, *Island*, *A Song for Ella Grey* and many other novels, stories, picture books, opera librettos, songs and plays. His work is translated into 40 languages, and is widely adapted for stage and screen. His major awards include the Carnegie Medal, two Whitbread Awards, the Eleanor Farjeon Award, the Michael L Printz Award (USA), Le Prix Sorcières (France) and the *Guardian* Children's Fiction Prize. In 2010 he won the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the world's most prestigious prize for children's authors. He is Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University and he lives in Bath and in Newcastle, the city in which he was born.

**Judges:** 'One of the most beautiful, transcendent books in the competition.'



### ***Bone Talk*** by Candy Gourlay (*David Fickling Books*)

More than a hundred years ago, a boy named Samkad thinks he knows everything about the world. He knows the mountains he lives in. He knows his people. He knows his blood enemy, the Mangili. And he wants to become a man, to be given his own shield, spear and axe to fight with. His best friend, Luki, wants all the same things – except she is a girl, and no girl has ever become a warrior. But everything

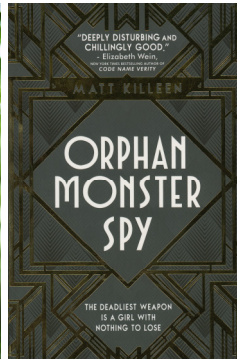
changes when a new boy arrives in the village. He calls himself Samkad's brother, yet he knows nothing of the ways of the mountain. And he brings news of a people called 'Americans', who are bringing war and destruction right to his home...

**Candy Gourlay** is of Filipino heritage, and began her career as a journalist for the opposition press during the People Power Revolution before becoming an author. Her debut novel *Tall Story* won the Crystal Kite Award in 2011 and was shortlisted for a further 13 awards including the Blue Peter Prize, the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and the Branford Boase. Candy is fascinated by colonialism and travelled to her book's remote mountain setting whilst writing *Bone Talk*. She is a positive force



within the BAME movement in the publishing world and has spoken with wisdom and compassion about cultural appropriation. Candy now lives in North London.

**Judges:** 'A powerful, complex and fascinating coming-of-age novel.'



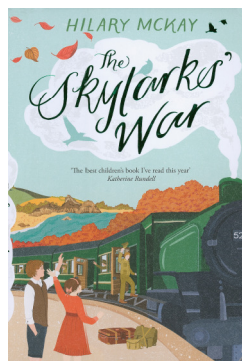
***Orphan Monster Spy***  
by Matt Killeen (*Usborne*)

Sarah has played many roles: dutiful daughter, talented gymnast, persecuted Jew, lost orphan. But now she faces her most challenging role of all; now she must become the very thing she hates. Aided by her British Handler, Sarah must infiltrate the Bund Deutscher Mädel and win a place at Rothenstadt, a prestigious finishing school for the daughters of the Aryan master race in Nazi Germany. There she must befriend the

daughter of a top nuclear scientist by becoming a monster like them. A monster who can destroy them all. The Nazis think she is just a little girl. But she is the weapon they never saw coming.

**Matt Killeen** was born in Birmingham in the 1970s. After careers in advertising as a copywriter and in music and sports journalism, he completed a Masters Degree in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University. In 2010, he became a writer for the LEGO® Company, leaving after eight years. *Orphan Monster Spy* is his first novel and was inspired, in part, by the young female SOE agents of WW2. He lives near London and now writes full-time.

**Judges:** 'A compelling, darkly thrilling debut - tense, cinematic and brilliant.'



***The Skylarks' War***  
by Hilary McKay (*MacMillan Children's Books*)

Clarry and her older brother Peter live for their summers in Cornwall, staying with their grandparents and running free with their charismatic cousin, Rupert. But normal life resumes each September - boarding school for Peter and Rupert, and a boring life for Clarry at home with her absent father, as the shadow of a terrible war looms ever closer. When Rupert goes off to fight at the front, Clarry feels their skylark summers are finally slipping away from them. Can their family

survive this fearful war?

**Hilary McKay** won the *Guardian* Fiction Prize for her first novel, *The Exiles*. She then went on to win The Smarties and the Whitbread (now the Costa) Award for *The Exiles* and *Saffy's Angel*. Her most recent book, *Fairy Tales*, was her first with Macmillan Children's Books and is a critically-acclaimed collection of clever retellings of well-known fairy tales.

**Judges:** 'Chime, resonance and sparkle – a truly great read.'