

Kelpies Prize 2018 Shortlist



***Haunted Tide* by Celia Bryce**

The island's old lighthouse has been abandoned for years, but when Charley arrives to stay with her aunt and cousin after the death of her uncle, she's convinced it's not as empty as it looks.

Except no one else seems to hear the strange noises on the wind, or see the flickering lights in the dead of night. And they don't seem to care about the strange girl who wanders the island, with dark-eyed gulls watching her every step.

As Charley's cousin grieves and her aunt's behaviour becomes increasingly erratic, events on the remote Scottish island take a dangerous turn. The ghosts of the past need to be laid to rest, before somebody gets hurt...

Celia Bryce was a nurse but now writes poetry, stories, travel pieces, restaurant reviews, plays and novels. Dabbling, she calls it. Her stories have been broadcast on BBC radio and her radio drama, *The Skategrinder* won a Society of Authors prize. Her first Young Adult novel, *Anthem for Jackson Dawes*, was nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal. She lives with her family near Newcastle upon Tyne.



***The Lost Wizard of Nine Witches Wood* by Hannah Foley**

Part-girl, part-cat, Cat McKeel has always known she's a little different (after all, the tail is a bit of a giveaway). What Cat doesn't know is that she holds the key to a magical prophecy – she's the only person who can bring back the lost wizard of Nine Witches Wood.

Teaming up with her best friend Low (part-boy, part-owl, quite partial to rodents), and with help from her nine witch guardians (plus a few fantastical creatures from Scotland's rich mythology), Cat is plunged into a haphazard magical world of secret libraries, flying bicycles and not-so-terrifying trolls on her search for the great wizard.

But finding 'the magic man' won't be easy, especially when one of the very witches sworn to protect Cat is secretly working against her to unleash an ancient evil...

Hannah Foley grew up in Devon and worked as a registered nurse for a number of years before returning to school to study illustration at Edinburgh College of Art. Hannah is now a freelance illustrator, living back in Devon, illustrating for children, young people and families in the educational and charitable sectors. Hannah loves creating narratives with both words and pictures.



***Over the Sea to Skye* by Robin Scott-Elliott**

When twelve-year-old twins Charlie and Flora MacDonald find a runaway Soviet submariner in their garden, they know they should hand him in. What if he's a spy? But Leon is just a teenager – all he wants is to live a normal life, away from the Cold War.

Charlie and Flora launch their own secret mission to smuggle him out of Scotland, but Leon's not the only one who needs their help. Thrown in at the deep end – and thrown back in time to 1746 – the twins meet a famous ancestor, and come face-to-face with Bonnie Prince Charlie himself, on the run from the advancing British forces.

Crossing the sea to Skye is their only way of escape. Can the twins help Leon and Bonnie Prince Charlie both find freedom, even when their lives, and the very course of history, are at stake?

Robin Scott-Elliott has been a sports writer for 25 years with the BBC, ITV, the Sunday Times, the Independent and the 'i', covering every sport you can think of and a few you probably can't. Born in Edinburgh, childhood holidays at his granny's home on the Isle of Mull sparked a life-long love of Scotland's west coast and its rich and turbulent history. He is married to Karen, they have two daughters, Iona and Torrin, and still head to Mull every summer.

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