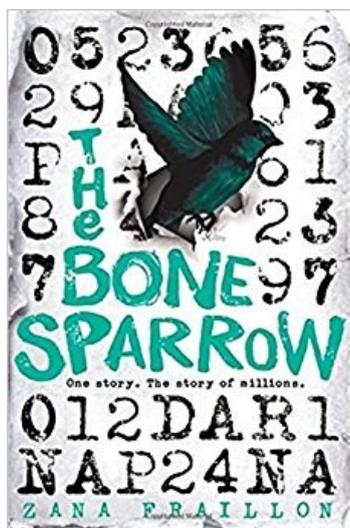


Book of the Week

Each week we'll be putting a spotlight on a must-read book which can be borrowed from the library. We welcome suggestions from staff and pupils so please do email library@worth.org.uk telling us why your choice deserves to be in the spotlight!

The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon



Subhi is a refugee. Born in an Australian permanent detention center after his mother and sister fled the violence of a distant homeland, Subhi has only ever known life behind the fences. But his world is far bigger than that—every night, the magical Night Sea from his mother's stories brings him gifts, the faraway whales sing to him, and the birds tell their stories. And as he grows, his imagination threatens to burst beyond the limits of his containment.

The most vivid story of all, however, is the one that arrives one night in the form of Jimmie—a scruffy, impatient girl who appears on the other side of the wire fence and brings with her a notebook written by the mother she lost. Unable to read it herself, she relies on Subhi to unravel her family's love songs and tragedies. Subhi and Jimmie might both find comfort—and maybe even freedom—as their tales unfold. But not until each has been braver than ever before.

The Bone Sparrow was shortlisted for the [CILIP Carnegie Medal 2017](#) and was awarded the [2017 Amnesty CILIP Honours](#) earlier this week. The Amnesty Honours celebrates the books on the annual CILIP Carnegie shortlists which broaden horizons and encourage empathy and that most distinctively illuminates, communicates, or celebrates our personal rights and freedoms. *The Bone Sparrow* was also shortlisted for the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize 2016. Zana Fraillon felt compelled to write the novel because she could not ignore the millions of people who were being forcibly displaced and the millions of children missing out on a childhood. Zana comments, "*The Bone Sparrow* was written so we remember the people behind the statistics. Those 65 million stories waiting to be told, those 33 million children wondering if their futures will ever be realised. It was written so we can find the courage to stand for humanity, and the wisdom to imagine a different world. It was written so we may all live in hope." Above all, this is a wonderful but heart-rending story of hope and friendship, one that deserves the acclaim it has received.

Find out more at www.zanafraillon.com.

This book is suitable for pupils age 11+.

For more recommendations of what to read come and see us in the library!



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