

# The Windhover

Lorna Elcock

**A heartbreaking, dual timeline story of betrayal, familial estrangement and the children who are left to pick up the pieces, perfect for fans of Claire Keegan and Colm Tóibín.**

**Perthshire. 1957.** The Camerons arrive from a tenement in Glasgow to run a remote Scottish youth hostel, unaware they are setting in motion a terrible chain of events that will reverberate through the decades.

Siblings Alison and Ewan delight in swapping grey city life for the mountains and lochs surrounding Rannoch. Only their elder sister Moira understands their granny's dark looks and their mother's increasingly poor health. As the summer progresses and Mr Cameron's incendiary secrets begin to surface, the family's attempts to create a new life unravel – and then the adults make an unthinkable decision, one that wrenches the Camerons apart.

**London. 1982.** Ewan is long estranged from his family. Now a celebrated artist working in burgeoning London, he is a world away from Rannoch. So why do his paintings return to the rugged landscapes and soaring birds of his youth? Four hundred miles north of him, in grey and rainy Cumbernauld, Moira knows that it is down to her to remedy the effects of their disastrous childhood before it is too late.

***The Windhover* is an emotionally devastating story of lost children and misguided adults, tracing the shockwaves of lies and loss within one family and exploring whether redemption is truly possible when the betrayal runs so deep.**

#### Author Bio:

Lorna Elcock was shortlisted for the Women's Prize Discoveries programme in 2021. Her short fiction has appeared in *Ambit*, and has been listed in the Top 60 entries to the BBC National Short Story Award. She has an MA in Creative & Life Writing from Goldsmiths, University of London.

- Damon Galgut's *The Promise* meets *The Wren, The Wren*
- **FOR FANS OF:** *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan, *Summerwater* by Sarah Moss, *Mothering Sunday* by Graham Swift, the works of Colm Tóibín, and readers who enjoy novels about families in crisis.
- **DUAL TIMELINE LEADING TO A TRAGIC BETRAYAL:** Chapters alternate between 1952 and 1982, revealing the lead up to the betrayal and the fractures it leaves behind.
- **VIVID SETTINGS THAT HAUNT THE CHARACTERS AND READERS ALIKE:** Gorgeous imagery that almost jumps off the page, taking us from crumbling hostels in rural Scotland to smokey art studios in burgeoning London.
- **GAY MC GRAPPLES WITH HIS PAST WHILE FINDING SUCCESS AS AN ARTIST:** Whose journey towards forgiveness is underlined by his new foray into Expressionist painting.
- **BITTERSWEET TALE OF REUNION:** A devastating story of lost children, misguided adults and the possibility of redemption.
- **AUTHOR SHORTLISTED FOR THE WOMEN'S PRIZE DISCOVERIES AWARD:** As well as long listed for the BBC National Short Story Award.



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