

# THE TOM-GALLON TRUST AWARD 2017

## EMBARGOED UNTIL 20 JUNE 2017 8PM



The 2017 Tom-Gallon Trust Award for a short story has been awarded to **FRANCES THIMANN** for **SHELLS**. The prize of £1,000 was presented by Ben Okri at the Society of Authors' Authors' Awards, held at the Army & Navy Club on 20 June.

The judges this year were Paul Bailey and Fay Weldon. They also commended runner-up **BECKY TIPPER** for her story **THE RABBIT**.

### WINNER



#### FRANCES THIMANN for SHELLS

**FRANCES THIMANN** was born in London and brought up in Nottingham. She first studied Music at Bristol University, and later completed an MA in Creative Writing at Nottingham Trent University. After her BA Thimann pursued a career in information and library work which included work abroad for the British Council. She has always had an interest in travel and languages. Thimann is part of the Nottingham Writers' Studio.

*Thimann's poignant story has the reader hoping that its two principal characters will find it possible to express their dormant feelings to one another. This is a tender, subtle and even suspenseful story.*

### RUNNER-UP

#### BECKY TIPPER for THE RABBIT

**BECKY TIPPER** was born in the West Midlands. She worked for several years in academia and holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Manchester, where she is an Honorary Research Fellow. She was commended in the 2014 Mothers Milk Books Writing Prize and won the 2011 Bridport Prize for flash fiction.

*An immediately likeable story, beautifully crafted, elegantly written, with all the arts of a born storyteller.*



### ABOUT THE AWARD



Nellie Tom-Gallon, author and publicist, who died in 1938, enabled the setting up of a trust fund in her writer brother's memory to offer an award to a published fiction writer. The award is supported by the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society.

### NOTES TO EDITORS

For previous winners please see <http://www.societyofauthors.org/Prizes/Fiction/Tom-Gallon/Past-winners>

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