

Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award

BIBLIO - BUZZ

Author Challenge

with Aisha Bushby



Author of
A Pocketful of Stars

Get Buzzin
about Books x



Email your submission to
learning@alexandrapalace.com

HAVE FUN & GOOD LUCK!

BIBLIO BUZZ AUTHOR CHALLENGE



What's it all about?



Welcome budding novelists and reading enthusiasts!

We have joined forces with seven celebrated children's authors: **Aisha Bushby, Kirsty Applebaum, Helen Peters, Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott, Stewart Foster and Thomas Taylor** to bring the finale of the annual Biblio Buzz reading initiative online between 4 - 16 May. You have voted for your favourite books and the results are being counted, but before announcing the winners, we would like to offer you **the opportunity to get involved** one more time, with a series of **creative writing challenges**.

Each author has recorded a reading from their much-loved stories, and has set you a **creative writing challenge** laid out in this pack. Please send copies of your stories and responses to:
learning@alexandrapalce.com

Good Luck!



Will you accept the challenge?

Don't worry if you haven't read the books.

You can still enter the Author Challenges, and maybe win a prize of book tokens, tickets to GoApe or Alexandra Palace Ice Rink.

WOW!



BIBLIO BUZZ AUTHOR CHALLENGE

Meet the Author



Aisha Bushby

Aisha was born in the Middle East and has lived in Kuwait, England and Canada. Aisha studied English literature and Philosophy at the University of Birmingham and works part-time as a bookseller. The first novel she worked on was a piece of Harry Potter fan fiction titled **Harry Potter and the final Horcrux**. She now writes children's books, sometimes with a little bit of magic in them.



Aisha's debut middle grade novel, **A Pocketful of Stars**, was published by Egmont in August 2019 and her second novel **Moonchild: Voyage of the Lost and Found** will be published in August 2020.

Now, are you ready for the challenge?



Scents play a significant role in **A Pocketful of Stars**, because the central character (protagonist) Safiya visits her mother's memories through a magical perfume bottle.



Aisha's Challenge

Your challenge is to write an opening paragraph to a novel that is inspired by **olfactory stimuli** (in other words using your sense of smell).

Step 1: Start by going on a scavenger hunt round your house and finding something that you believe smells interesting. It can smell good, like fruit or soap, or it can smell bad, like a stinky cheese. Once you've done that, write your paragraph of text following the steps below.

Step 2: Describe the smell in a sentence. For example, Safiya says 'The smells are wild and sweet.'

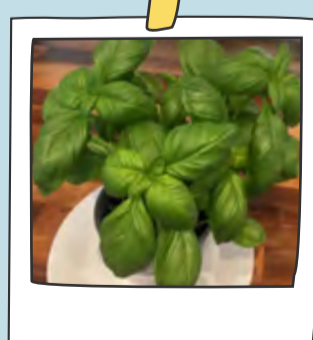
Step 3: Write another sentence but this time you can use a different sense - taste, touch, sight, or hearing. For example, Safiya describes how hot it is, 'like opening the oven door after you've baked something delicious.'

Step 4: Think about where you might be when you stumble across the smell. It could be anywhere. For example, Safiya is in a courtyard.

Then, **put it all together**, with a few more words in between. For example, see the paragraph below which formed part of the passage I read for you from **Chapter 4** of 'A Pocketful of Stars':

"I sit up. It takes a while for my eyes to adjust, for me to get my bearings. I'm in some sort of courtyard. It's hot, hotter than I've ever known it. Like opening the oven door just after you've baked something delicious. I almost expect my glasses to fog. The smells are wild and sweet."

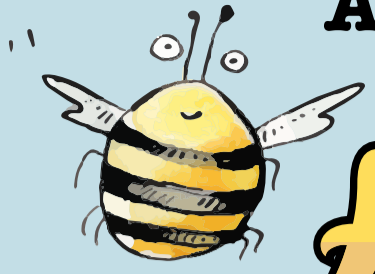
What will you find?



Don't forget to send us your submission.

Email your challenge to learning@alexandrapalace.com

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Author Challenges

Look out for more challenges
buzzing around throughout May



Kirsty Applebaum

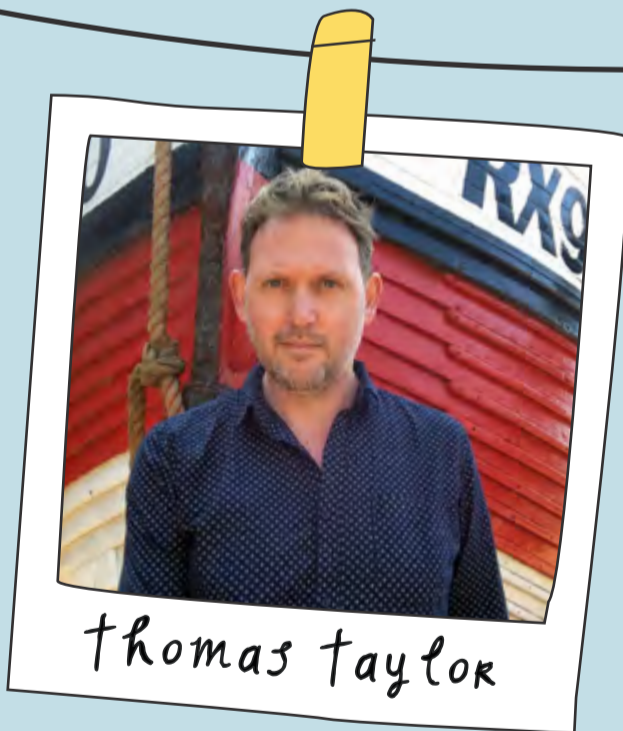


Stewart Foster



Rebecca Westcott

The authors are **looking forward** to reading your submissions
so **don't forget** to send them in to learning@alexandrapalace.com



Thomas Taylor



Helen Peters

Yours will BEE
BRILLIANT!



Challenges close end of June 2020

Prizes for the best submissions will be announced in July.
Email your submissions to learning@alexandrapalace.com

Good luck!
xo

