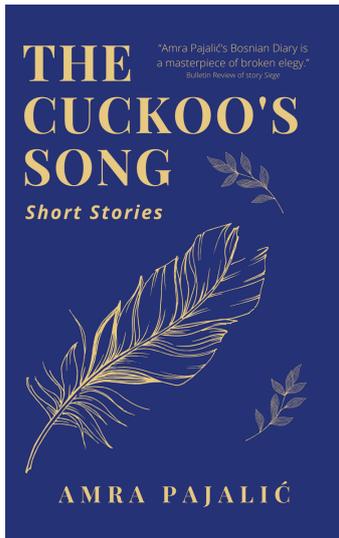


# The Cuckoo's Song-Short Stories



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## Praise

*Siege* 'a powerful and moving story of family dissolution and the suffering, deprivation and terror of war.' Australian Book Review

In *Nervous Breakdown* 'rebellion is fuelled by the cultural disconnect between themselves and their migrant parents.' Sydney Morning Herald

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**Sales Points:** Short story book of previously published and prize-winning stories.

## Blurb:

Award-winning author Amra Pajalić showcases her gritty, poignant and sometimes bruising voice in this eclectic short story book of previously published and prize-winning stories. Featuring powerful and moving stories of family dissolution, deprivation of war, tenderness of family and the heart-rending experiences of mental illness. As well as suspenseful new thriller stories with a twist of vindictiveness and retribution, and love stories that make the heart sing, Pajalić will delight and entertain.

*The Cuckoo's Song*—Francesca is ten when a gypsy fortune-teller told her the day and the hour of her death and she has been waiting since.

*Fragments*—Seka and her brother forage for books in a bombed-out school in Srebrenica during the Balkan war.

*Friends Forever*—Two lifelong friends share a room at a nursing home, as well as a secret or two.

*School of Hardknocks*—Amina is a new high school student after migrating from Bosnia and struggles to acclimate to the Aussie way of life.

*Woman on Fire*—A young girl lives with her mother's boyfriend when her mentally ill mother is admitted into hospital.

## Author biography:

Amra Pajalić is an Australian author of Bosnian background who has been traditionally published and is making her debut as an indie author with her short story collection *The Cuckoo's Song-Short Stories*. Her memoir *Things Nobody Knows But Me* (Transit Lounge, 2019) was shortlisted for the 2020 National Biography Award. Her debut novel *The Good Daughter* (Text Publishing, 2009) won the 2009 Melbourne Prize for Literature's Civic Choice Award. She is co-editor of the anthology *Growing up Muslim in Australia* (Allen and Unwin, 2014) which was shortlisted for the 2015 Children's Book Council of the year awards. Her short stories and non-fiction articles and essays have been published in anthologies, journals and shortlisted in writing competitions. She works as a high school teacher and is completing a PhD in Creative Writing at La Trobe University.

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