

Nell Leyshon

Writer - Fiction and Drama

An established author, **Nell Leyshon** is also an award-winning playwright, and regularly writes for radio. **THE COLOUR OF MILK** was published by Fig Tree in May 2012 and won the Libro del Ano prize in Spain, the Prix de l'Union Intéralliée in France, and was runner up for the Prix Femina.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
MEMOIRS OF A DIPPER 2015 Fig Tree	'There's different ways to do it: I can slowly move closer step by step, or I can do it in one movement and bump into them. Easiest is in a pub then I can put my drink too close to theirs. Move my stool near theirs. Anything to cross the line.' Gary is a dipper, a burglar, a thief. He is still at junior school when his father first takes him out on the rob, and proves a fast learner: not much more than a child the first time he gets caught, he is a career criminal as soon as he is out again. But Gary is also fiercely intelligent - he often knows more about the antique furniture he is stealing than the people who own it, and is confident in his ability to trick his way out of any situation, always one step ahead. But all that changes when he falls for Mandy...
THE COLOUR OF MILK 2012 Fig Tree	Aged just fifteen, Mary is a scrap of a thing with a sharp tongue and hair the colour of milk. The year is 1831 when this farmer's daughter is urged to confront the difficult task of telling her story. Over the summer she is sent to work for the vicar and care for his invalid wife. The reasons why Mary must record the truth of her experiences are gradually revealed.

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DEVOTION 2008 Macmillan	DEVOTION tells the story of a family's break-up and a father's breakdown and is told from all four points of view. It is uncompromising in its reminder of how easily the lives we think we have can slip through our fingers.
THE VOICE 2008 Picador	Two short stories, THE VOICE and F SHARP, reside together in this exciting new pocket-sized book about the experiences of two women. The two women share a passion for the piano - though their experiences are worlds apart.
BLACK DIRT 2004 Macmillan	Frank's house on the Somerset Levels is surrounded by floodwater and filled with the guilty silences that bind family members together - and sometimes keep them apart. His inner world is full of his sister Iris and their hot childhood summer, which was full of local legends. The past and present begin to merge, and the stories cover deeply buried memories. Black Dirt explores how stories shape a child's imagination. Longlisted for the Orange Prize for Fiction.