

Out now in paperback and ebook

Zarrin

David Briggs

RedDoor Press, £9.99 PB

'A topical novel and a disquieting account of the refugee experience. David Briggs' compassionate tale is immensely readable.' - Lucy Popescu, Editor, *A Country to Call Home* and *A Country of Refuge*

About the book

In the days before the outbreak of war in Syria, a young Kurdish woman, Zarrin, has brought shame on her family. She has paid a high price – as is the way for such dishonour – and fearing for her life, she flees, stumbling her way blindly to the border with Turkey, where she finds herself amongst a growing tide of migrants in a refugee camp. There, a son, Elend, is born – the product of her punishment.

She makes her way to Britain, scraping a living as best she can, but she is betrayed over and over as she moves from job to job, living hand to mouth and supporting her young son with what little she has.

Then, at last, her fortunes change. She joins a group of itinerant workers who travel the waterways of England. With them, she finds happiness and companionship at last. But her happiness is crushed once again when she is outed inadvertently on social media by one of her friends and, just as she has begun to find sanctuary, Zarrin's safety is at risk once again.

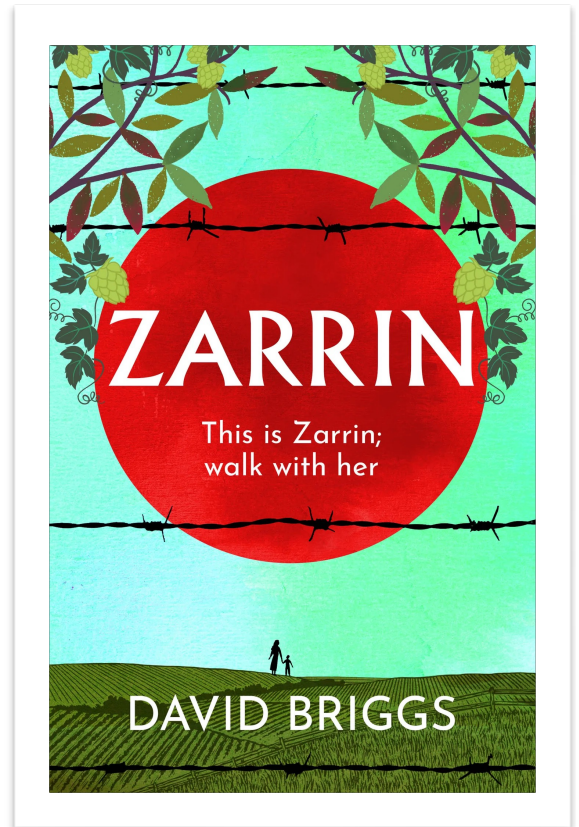
For fans of *Moth* by Melody Razak and *Against the Loveless World* by Susan Abulhawa



About the Author: After an academic career in England, during which he published an extensive list of scientific works, David Briggs moved to New Zealand in 2009, and now focuses on creative writing. His published novels include: *The Direction of Our Fear* (BMS Books, 2016) and *The Claim* (longlisted for the Michael Gifkins Prize; shortlisted for the NZ Booklovers Award) (RedDoor Press, UK, 2019). In 2020, he published *Reflections*, a book of poetry and pictures with photographer JF Robert.

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The author's royalties from Zarrin will be donated in their entirety to Refugee Action, a British Charity that supports refugees.