



JULIA BLACKBURN

Book Information Sheet: **The Lost Dragonflies** by Julia Blackburn

Magic or science? Twelve-year-old Belle faces an impossible choice.

Whisper Lake is dying. Its magical dragonfly guardians falling ill. Nana believes the natural world holds the power to heal the valley. Mum has lost faith and turned to outsiders for help. When her grandmother and the dragonflies vanish, Belle and her beloved donkey set off to find them—under the watchful eye of Nana's red kite - following clues that lead deep into the valley's wild secrets. She has three days. Should she trust the ancient wisdom her family has followed for generations—or the professor her mother hopes will save them? A powerful story about family secrets, the healing power of nature and the fight to save a dying land.

- **Publication date:** 1 Nov 2025
- **Publisher:** Root & Branch Publishing
- **Distribution:** IngramSpark/Amazon
- **Target Audience:** Middle grade 9–12
- **Genre: Magical Realism:** for fans of environmental fiction & family stories with magical elements
- **Key themes:** Nature vs. science
Family, legacy, and belonging
Eco-magic and land sentience
Courage, grief, and personal growth
- **Comparison Titles:** Kiran Millwood Hargrave's *The Way Past Winter*, Michelle Harrison's *A Pinch of Magic*, Piers Torday's *The Last Wild*, and Katherine Rundell's *The Explorer*
- **ISBN:** 978-1-0681782-4-5

Review copies available on request (print or digital). I'd love to share an advance copy with you — please let me know if you'd like to read it.



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