



# Infinite splendours

By Sofie Laguna

First published in 2020

## Genre & subject

Sexually abused children -- Fiction  
 Adult child sexual abuse victims -- Fiction  
 Families -- Fiction  
 Brothers -- Fiction  
 Australian fiction

## Synopsis

Lawrence Loman is a bright, caring, curious boy with a gift for painting. He lives at home with his mother and younger brother, and the future is laid out before him, full of promise. But when he is ten, an experience of betrayal takes it all away, and Lawrence is left to deal with the devastating aftermath. As he grows into a man, how will he make sense of what he has suffered? He cannot rewrite history, but must he be condemned to repeat it? Lawrence finds meaning in the best way he knows. By surrendering himself to art and nature, he creates beauty - beauty made all the more astonishing and soulful for the deprivation that gives rise to it. *Infinite Splendours* is an extraordinary novel, incandescent with love and compassion, rich in colour and character. The power and virtuosity of Laguna's writing make it impossible for us to look away; by being seen, Lawrence is redeemed. And we, as readers, have had our minds and hearts opened in ways we can't forget.

## Author biography

Sofie Laguna's first novel for adults, *One Foot Wrong*, was published throughout Europe, the US and the UK, was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award and shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Award. Her second novel for adults, *The Eye of the Sheep*, won the 2015 Miles Franklin Literary Award and was shortlisted for the Stella Prize and longlisted for the International Dublin IMPAC Award. Sofie Laguna's third novel, *The Choke*, won the 2018 Indie Book Award for Fiction, and was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award, the Voss Literary Prize, the Australian Literary Society Gold Medal and the Australian Book Industry Award, and longlisted for the Stella Prize, the Kibble Award and the International Dublin IMPAC Award. Sofie's many books for young people have been published in the US, the UK and in translation throughout Europe and Asia. She has been shortlisted for the Queensland Premier's Award, and her books have been named Honour Books and Notable Books by the Children's Book Council of Australia.

## Discussion starters

- What was your favourite/least favourite part of the book?
- Who is your favourite character in the book and why?
- Which scene has stuck with you the most?
- What surprised you most about the book?
- How did your opinion of the book change as you read it?
- Have you read other books by the same author? If so, how does this book compare. If not, does this book inspire you to read others?
- How does the book's title work in relation to the book's contents? If you could give the book a new title, what would it be?
- Are there lingering questions from the book you're still thinking about?
- What do you think happens to the characters after the book's official ending?

## If you liked this book, you may also like...

*All our shimmering skies* by Trent Dalton

*The living sea of walking dreams* by Richard Flanagan



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