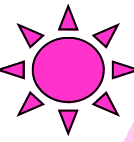
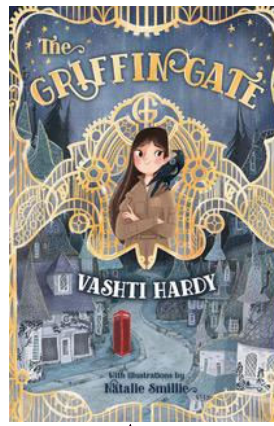
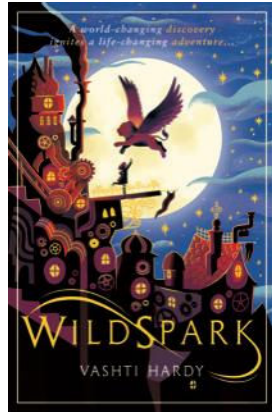
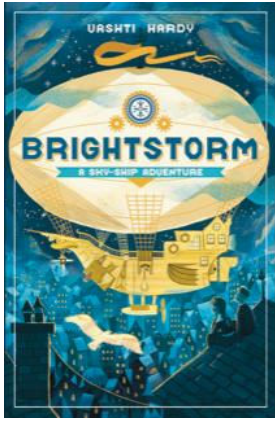
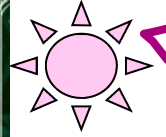
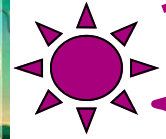
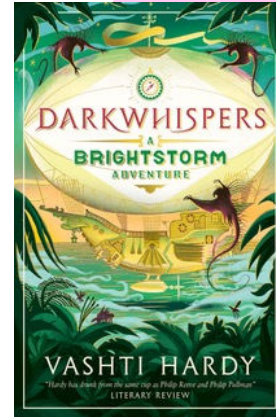


Vashti Hardy



AUTHOR
SPOTLIGHT



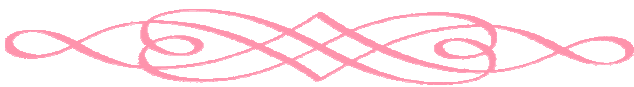
Why bother to read?

Imagination is our super power and reading is the key to unlocking, exploring and growing your imagination.

Books are a bit like the Tardis in Doctor Who: bigger on the inside! There are no boundaries to where you can go and what you can explore, whether going back or forward in time, riding with thought-wolves, travelling through space ... even being transported through the back of the wardrobe to magical lands; anything is possible!

Which of your own books is your favourite?

I truly couldn't choose a favourite of my own books as they are all special for different reasons. I love the *Brightstorm* adventures because the crew feel like family and for the hope and adventure it brings, and I love *Wildspark* for the friendship between Prue, Edwin and Agapantha and the amazing inventions, and I'm also very proud of *The Griffin Gate* because it's an inventive world that's accessible to reluctant readers and those with dyslexia.



What was your favourite childhood book?

My favourite childhood book was *Rebecca's World* by Terry Nation. With maps, riddles, unlikely friendships, peril, a brilliant baddy and bags of adventure, I was hooked! It's the book that made me want to be a writer and create my own fantasy worlds.



Vashti Hardy is a writer of children's books living near Brighton in Sussex with her husband and three teens. She was a primary school teacher for several years, and has a special interest in children's writing, especially free-writing and the use of journals and creating fantasy worlds. She has a first-class honours teaching degree with English specialism and an MA in Creative Writing from the University of Chichester.