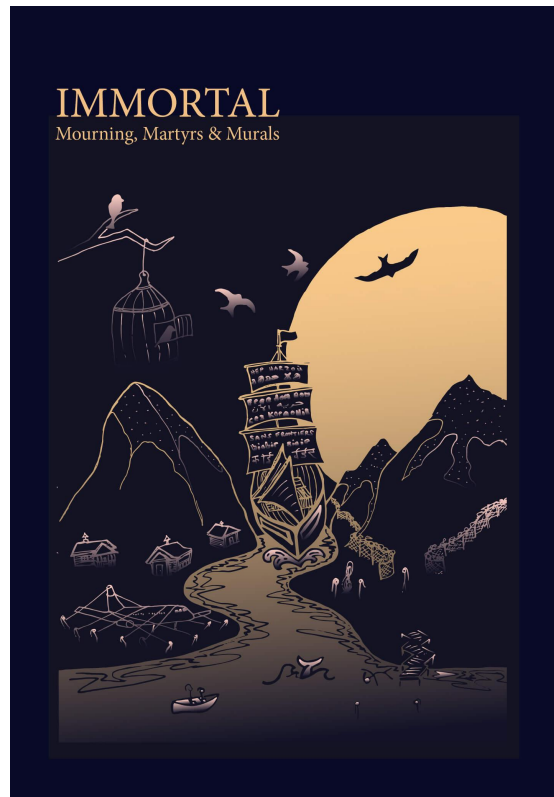


Immortal (Preview)

Mourning, Martyrs, & Murals

Various Authors



2019

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In April 2017, Anna Campbell made the journey to Rojava to fight with the YPJ in defense of the revolution and the Kurdish people. Eleven months later in March 2018, she was killed alongside Sara Merdin and Serhilden by Turkish Forces while defending Afrin. Their bodies were never recovered.

To commemorate the first year after Anna, Sara and Serhilden's deaths, a book *IMMORTAL: Mourning, Martyrs & Murals* was published by Anna's friends and family.

Anna's loved ones have collaborated on this project as a counter-move to the pervading media narrative. The book battles with the emotions and experiences of those trying to move forward through grief in the midst of media hysteria and political turmoil. It explores the anger, pain, and guilt faced by those left behind; and scrutinises the meaning of comradeship, friendship, and family.

Whilst instigated by comrades of Anna's, this book includes texts and images relating to Haukur Hilmarsson. Haukur, an Icelandic revolutionary, was killed in Afrin just one month before Anna in February 2018. Opening the book out to contributions relating to Haukur intends to illustrate the connections beyond family and friendship found through the shared experience of traumatic bereavement; it's about mutuality and commonality found in the threads of everyday struggle.

A Letter From My Sister, Anna

Sophia

Dear Nibling,

Your mum's just drifting off to sleep beside me. She's just told me she's pregnant! Maybe with you, maybe with another baby that didn't make it.

I'm so excited to meet you! I hope I get to because I'm going to Rojava tomorrow to take part in the revolution and defend it against its enemies. I have no idea what it will be like out there, or how I will have changed when I come back, and I'm terrified. Well I'll tell you stories about it when you're old enough, and maybe I can take you out on your first demo or flyposting trip! It makes me happy to think about our time together, what kind of person you'll be. I hope you like imaginary games, I'm good at those.

Well little mini-Campbell, It's really quite hard to write a letter to you when I don't know you yet, so I suppose I'll do what I usually do when I write to someone I don't know. Tell them about myself! I'm 25 years old, about 5'7" and I wear size 7 shoes. I have dirty blonde hair and my two front teeth are fake, chipped off when I fell off a 1-foot high wall in Menorca on holiday when I was about 10. I like puns and going on ferris wheels, and I don't like savoury food with fruit in it. Whenever I give your mum, Sophia, a present, she asks "is it stolen?" and the answer is usually yes. I'm not very good at doing anything, but I am quite determined which makes up for that a bit. But hopefully we'll get to hang out a lot during both of our lives, and get to know each other! And you won't remember me as a daring young revolutionary, but your odd aunt Anna.

Little one, If I don't come back, you should know that I didn't want to die at all. I wanted to live, to see you grow up, read books, use power tools and sit with your mum in the spring sunshine.

Anyway I'm drifting off to sleep now, so this is it. Your mum just pointed out to me that I'd been sleeping with my bed sloping downhill for a year so now that's fixed I'll sleep amazingly!

Lots of love and see you soon!

Aunt Anna x

The Library of Unconventional Lives

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<www.pmpress.org.uk/product/immortal>

A full colour tribute to Anna Campbell and Haukur Hilmarsson.

thelul.org