

# A GOOD YEAR

by Polis Loizou

- What did the image on the cover suggest to you about the story? Was your first impression correct?
- Folklore and superstitions play an important part in the story. What do you think their purpose is, and how do they contribute to the plot and atmosphere?
- The story is set in 1920s rural Cyprus, when the country was under British colonial rule. How do this setting and time period contribute to the overall narrative?
- How would you describe Loukas? Is he a sympathetic character? Did your opinion of him change over the course of the book?
- How is Despo portrayed? Would you agree that, despite her fear of the kalikantzari, she shows strength and courage?
- Did you find it interesting to read scenes from the perspective of a pregnant character? How do Despo's pregnancy and desire to protect her unborn child influence her behaviour?
- What is the significance of the kalikantzari in the story? Did you see them as real or more of a metaphor?
- What role does the Englishman, William, play in the book?
- How does the author use descriptions of food and drink to enrich the story's atmosphere?
- Were you surprised by the ending? How did you interpret the final scenes?