The Booker Prize 2024

# The Booker Prize 2024

# Rules & Submissions

## Open for entries from Thursday December 14 2023

To assist the judges, entries should be sent to the Booker Prize Foundation as soon as they are available.

### Automatic entries

Physical copies and PDFs for all automatic entries (books by authors who have previously been shortlisted) should be submitted during December 2023 and January 2024. Completed entry forms can follow, as per the below deadlines.

### Books published between October 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024

All entry forms, physical copies and PDFs must be submitted by Monday, January 29, 2023.

### Books published between April 1, 2024 and September 30, 2024

All entry forms must be submitted by Thursday, April 4, 2024, with physical copies and PDFs arriving no later than Monday, June 3, 2024.

### Call-ins

All nomination forms, justification letters, first chapters and full PDFs must be submitted by Monday, March 4, 2024. If no text is available at the time of call-in, it should be sent as soon as it is available.

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Direct any submission queries to the Booker Prize Foundation:
bookersubmissions@bookerprizefoundation.org

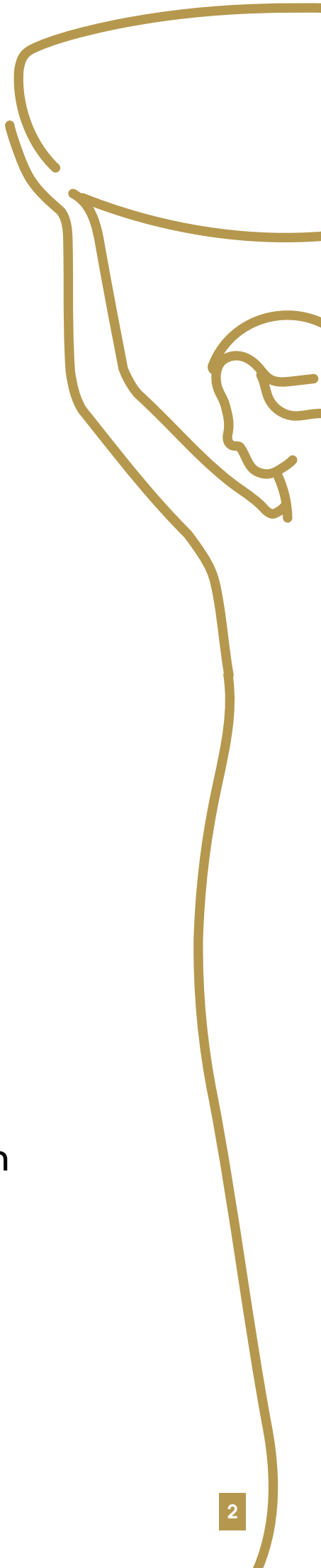
Entry forms are online here:
thebookerprizes.com/submissions

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www.thebookerprizes.com

#BookerPrize2024 @TheBookerPrizes

# About the Booker Prize



The Booker Prize Foundation is a charity whose mission is to promote the art of literature for the public benefit. Through its prizes, it aims to inspire people to read the world's best new fiction, while its digital content provides fresh opportunities for readers to explore the hundreds of longlisted, shortlisted and winning titles in the Booker Library.

Its work is driven by a simple belief – great fiction not only brings joy to millions, it has the power to change the way we think about the world.

The Booker Prize, founded in 1969, is awarded annually by the Booker Prize Foundation to the author of the best (in the opinion of the judges) eligible work of long-form fiction written originally in English and published in the UK and/or Ireland.

# About the prize

## Administration and judging

The prize is administered by the in-house team at the Booker Prize Foundation, led by the Chief Executive, Gaby Wood. Each year's panel of judges is chosen with the advice of the Booker Prize Foundation Advisory Committee, and is appointed by the Booker Prize Foundation.

The judges are responsible for compiling a longlist of 12 or 13 books – 'The Booker Dozen' – and from this a shortlist of six books from which they then choose the winner. The judges are solely responsible for the decisions as to which books will be so recognised and must do so in accordance with these rules. In making their decisions they must comply with all guidelines and directions as to the operation of the rules given to them by the Chief Executive who does so on behalf of the Booker Prize Foundation.

The prize may not be divided or withheld. If a vote becomes necessary, the majority decision will be honoured.

Each shortlisted author receives £2,500 and a bespoke bound copy of their book.

The winning author receives a further £50,000.

## Publishers' entry quotas

Any reference to "work" or "works" throughout these rules means a work or (as the case may be) works of long-form fiction.

Works to be considered by the judges can only be submitted by the publishers identified in 1a. below. The number of works a publisher can submit will depend on that publisher's inclusion in longlists from 2019 – 2023, as follows:

| |
|---|
| 1 submission – publishers with no longlisting |
| 2 submissions – publishers with 1 or 2 longlisting(s) |
| 3 submissions – publishers with 3 or more longlistings |

Please see pages 10 and 11 for the 2019 – 2023 longlists.

The submission numbers are capped to enable all five judges to consider all submissions. A call-in system exists to allow publishers to write to judges to pitch for additional books to be considered – please pay careful attention to this element of the judging as it plays a key role. If you feel that judges should know about specific books beyond those you have entered via the submissions and call-in process, please write to the Chief Executive via the submissions email address.

All submissions, call-in nominations and judges' call-ins are made on a confidential basis between publishers and the prize and the prize will not accept entries where the author or agent has required a publisher to make a submission – see rule 1g.

Rules

# 1 Eligibility

a Any work of fiction (see 1e. below) in print or electronic format, written originally in English and published in the UK and/or Ireland by an imprint formally established in the UK and/or Ireland (see 1b. and c. below) is eligible. The imprint must publish a list of at least two works of high quality long-form fiction by different authors each year. These two will not include a work by the publisher. If the publisher is a company, the two will not include a work by the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company.

b In determining whether the work is published in the UK by an imprint formally established in the UK the publisher must comply with all of the following:

  i the imprint sells its list in pounds sterling

  ii where the imprint's books are sold in print, its books are distributed through national UK retail outlets

  iii the imprint has its principal place of business in the UK and is subject to UK registration and regulation including the primary liability to pay tax in the UK on all of its trading activities as a publisher, and

  iv that the work in question is one for which the publisher has been allocated a UK and Ireland International Standard Book Number.

c In determining whether the work is published in Ireland by an imprint formally established in Ireland 1b. i. ii. iii. & iv. apply but substituting Ireland for UK and although in Ireland the publisher's list may be in euros, to remain eligible a work must comply with 2a. iv., 2c. ii. and iii., and 2d. iii.

d The work must be published in the UK and/or Ireland between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024. If it has previously been published outside the UK and Ireland it will only be eligible if the original date of publication outside the UK and Ireland is within the previous two years, ie not earlier than October 1, 2021.

e Every submitted work must be unified and substantial.

f No English translation of a work written originally in any other language is eligible.

g Self-published works are not eligible where the author is the publisher. If the publisher is a company which has been specifically set up to publish the work in question, and/or the author is the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company, the work is not eligible. Works which have been published via a commercial arrangement through which the publisher is paid by the author are not eligible. Where an author or their agent require submission as a condition of a work's publishing contract that work will not be eligible.

h No work is ineligible because its author has previously won either this prize or any other prize.

i As long as it otherwise complies with all the rules of the prize, any work of long-form fiction by an author who has previously been shortlisted for the prize may be submitted in addition to, and will not form part of, the publishers' entry quotas.

j The author of the work must be living at the time it is submitted or called in. The work will only remain eligible for as long as its author is alive through the various stages of the prize up to the time of the announcement of the winner, although this is subject to the discretion of the Chief Executive.

k The decision of the Chief Executive as to whether a work is eligible will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entered into.

Rules

# 2 Key stages of the prize

## a General

### Automatic entries

Physical copies and PDFs for all available automatic entries should be submitted during December 2023 and January 2024. Completed entry forms can follow after, as per the below deadlines.

### Books published between October 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024

All entry forms, physical copies and PDFs must be submitted by Monday, January 29, 2024.

### Books published between April 1, 2024 and September 30, 2024

All entry forms must be submitted by Thursday, April 4, 2024, with physical copies and PDFs arriving no later than Monday, June 3, 2024.

i Where print or proof copies are already available, 10 copies together with a PDF of the text must be sent at the same time.

ii If final proofs are sent initially, 10 copies of the finished work must then be sent as soon as they are available.

iii E-books are accepted on condition that the publisher is prepared, if necessary, to send 10 bound print copies.

iv Unless published only as an e-book, at the date of publication of the work at least 1,000 copies must be available for retail in the UK (or in the case of a work published in Ireland, in the UK and Ireland). If the work is longlisted or shortlisted but not published until after the announcement of the longlist or shortlist, see 2c. iii. and 2d. iii. below.

v The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the judges, may reject any revised proof or finished copy that differs substantially or materially from a first submitted proof, and the work concerned will not be further considered.

vi By Monday, June 3, 2024 (irrespective of the date of publication) in addition to the entry form

**Publishers must email:**

- A PDF of the book
- A high-resolution colour image of the book cover (minimum 800 pixels high)
- A press release for the book
- Multiple high-resolution headshots of the author (at least one that is landscape orientation at a minimum of 4000 pixels wide)

Full details of where to submit are in the Next steps section on page 8.

Rules

### b Call-in nominations

The call-in system is a secondary method of submission for the prize and the judges are required to consider the nominations carefully. Each imprint may nominate, by Monday, March 4, 2024, up to five further eligible works.

**Call-in nominations should be supported by:**

- A PDF of the book. If no text is available at the time of a call-in, it should be forwarded as soon as it is available.
- The first chapter in a separate file
- A justification letter (no more than 250 words) on headed paper explaining why the work should be considered, written and signed by the commissioning editor.

i An imprint that only publishes one high quality work of long form fiction a year may provide a justification for that work as long as it is otherwise eligible.

ii The judges will call in no fewer than ten from all such nominations they receive.

iii The judges may also call in any work of long-form fiction published between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024, even if that work has not been submitted or nominated for call in by a publisher. If the publisher agrees that the work is to be considered then the publisher must sign an undertaking to the effect that the publisher will comply with all the rules of the prize. The work will not be further considered without this signed undertaking.

### c Longlist

If a work is longlisted its publisher will:

i where the work concerned was published before the announcement of the longlist and when submitted, or called in, was only available in print format, make the work available for sale as an e-book within 10 days of the announcement of the longlist.

ii where the work concerned was published before the announcement of the longlist and when submitted, or called in, was published only as an e-book, have no fewer than 1,000 print copies available for retail sale in UK (or in the case of a work published in Ireland, in the UK and Ireland) within 10 days of the announcement of the longlist.

iii where the work concerned is published after the announcement of the longlist, then on the publication date have the minimum of 1,000 print copies available for retail sale in UK (or in the case of a work published in Ireland, in the UK and Ireland) and the work must also be available for sale as an e-book.

iv use best endeavours to ensure that, where print runs of the longlisted work (wherever it is published) refer to the longlisting on the front or back cover, the Booker Prize branding will be used; the submitting publisher must bring this requirement to the attention of the literary agent and, where the submitting publisher is able, to its counterpart(s) elsewhere. This requirement applies if the work goes on to be shortlisted or to win and reference is made on the front or back cover to the shortlisting or win.

v within 14 days of the longlist announcement provide an electronic text version to the RNIB (or, if requested by the Booker Prize Foundation, to any other approved body) for the purposes of producing and distributing on a not-for-profit basis *accessible copies to visually impaired persons*. (See ** below for an explanation of the terminology in italics)

Rules

d Shortlist

If a work is shortlisted its publisher will:

i inform rights owners that accessible copies for the visually impaired are being produced and distributed (see ** below)

ii where the work concerned is published after the announcement of the shortlist, then on the publication date have the minimum of 1,000 print copies available for retail sale in UK (or in the case of a novel published in Ireland, in the UK and Ireland) and the work must also be available for sale as an ebook.

Publishers are no longer required to make a financial contribution if they have a book shortlisted or if it wins the prize.

**All the italicised words and phrases used are as defined in the Copyright (Visually Impaired Persons) Act 2002. The Booker Prize Foundation funds the production (currently by the RNIB) of shortlisted books into editions for the visually impaired.

## 3 Marketing and expectations

a It is a strict condition of entry that publishers agree to make it a priority to ensure that authors whose works are submitted or called in make themselves available for publicity and events from longlist stage on and that, if shortlisted, authors will participate in the awards ceremony. If there is any problem over the author's availability, the Booker Prize Foundation must be informed immediately. Publishers are responsible for arranging their author's travel and accommodation for events, and covering costs.

b The publisher, publicist and agent of a longlisted author are strongly advised to attend a briefing meeting that is convened by the Booker Prize Foundation shortly after both the longlist and the shortlist is announced.

c None of the print copies that are required as part of the submissions process or as call-ins will be returned to the publishers. Further copies will be required at longlist and shortlist stage. Quantities will be specified in the briefing meetings.

# submissions

## Next steps

Complete our online form.
There are two types of form to fill in:

**Submission form**
(please submit one form for each submitted title)

**Call-in nomination form**
(please submit one form for each nominated title)

## For submissions

> Send 10 physical copies of each submitted book to the below address – ensure you mention **The Booker Prize 2024** on the envelope:

**The Booker Prize 2024**
Parallel.Net Limited
8 Hurlingham Business Park
Sulivan Road
London SW6 3DU

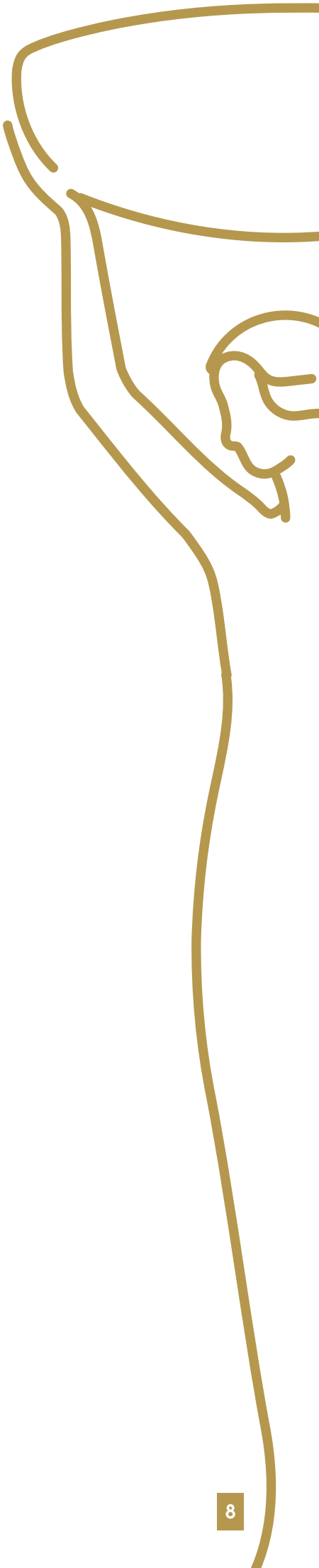
> Email the below to the Booker Prize Foundation at: bookersubmissions@bookerprizefoundation.org

- A PDF of the book
- A high-resolution colour image of the book cover (minimum 800 pixels high)
- A press release for the book
- Multiple high-resolution headshots of the author (at least one that is landscape orientation at a minimum of 4000 pixels wide)

## For call-in nominations

> For each call-in nomination, email the below to the Booker Prize Foundation at: bookersubmissions@bookerprizefoundation.org

- A PDF of the book. If no text is available at the time of a call-in, it should be forwarded as soon as it is available
- The first chapter in a separate file
- A justification letter (no more than 250 words) on headed paper explaining why the work should be considered, written and signed by the commissioning editor.



# submissions

## Reminder of the deadlines

### Automatic entries

Physical copies and PDFs for all available automatic entries should be submitted during December 2023 and January 2024. Completed entry forms can follow after, as per the below deadlines.

### Books published between: October 1 2023 and March 31 2024

All entry forms, physical copies and PDFs must be submitted by Monday, January 29, 2024

### Books published between: April 1 2024 and September 30 2024

All entry forms must be submitted by Thursday April 4 2024, with physical copies and PDFs arriving no later than Monday, June 5, 2023.

### Additional assets

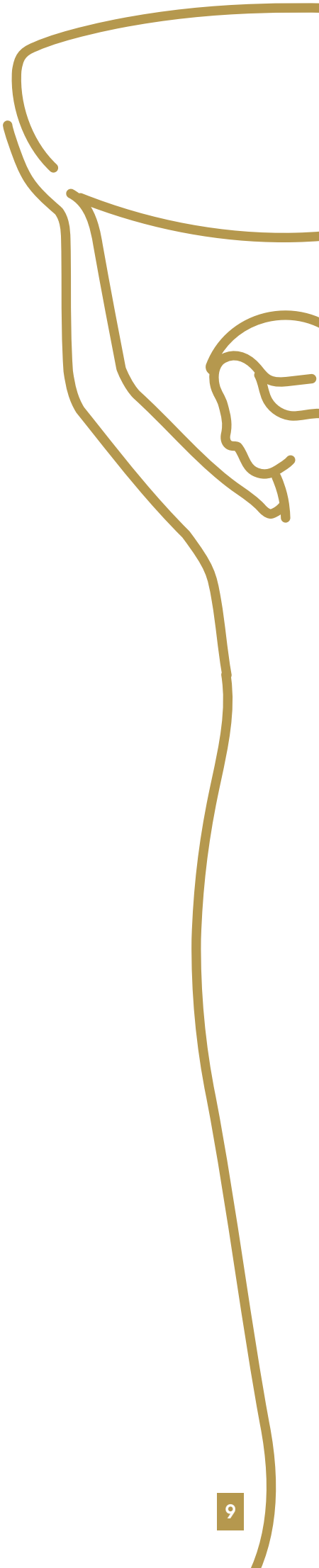
Additional assets for submissions must be sent at the latest by Monday, June 3, 2024.

### Call-ins

All call-in forms and assets should be submitted with the below by Monday, June 3, 2024.

## Queries

Please send all submission queries the Booker Prize Foundation at:
bookersubmissions@bookerprizefoundation.org



# The Booker Prize longlists

## Longlist 2023

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ayọ̀bámi Adébáyọ̀ | ***A Spell of Good Things*** | Canongate |
| Sebastian Barry | ***Old God's Time*** | Faber |
| Sarah Bernstein | ***Study for Obedience*** | Granta |
| Jonathan Escoffery | ***If I Survive You*** | 4th Estate |
| Elaine Feeney | ***How to Build a Boat*** | Harvill Secker |
| Paul Harding | ***This Other Eden*** | Hutchinson Heinemann |
| Siân Hughes | ***Pearl*** | Indigo Press |
| Viktoria Lloyd-Barlow | ***All the Little Bird-Hearts*** | Tinder Press |
| Paul Lynch | ***Prophet Song*** | Oneworld |
| Martin MacInnes | ***In Ascension*** | Atlantic Books |
| Chetna Maroo | ***Western Lane*** | Picador |
| Paul Murray | ***The Bee Sting*** | Hamish Hamilton |
| Tan Twan Eng | ***The House of Doors*** | Canongate |

## Longlist 2022

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NoViolet Bulawayo | ***Glory*** | Chatto & Windus |
| Hernan Diaz | ***Trust*** | Picador |
| Percival Everett | ***The Trees*** | Influx Press |
| Karen Joy Fowler | ***Booth*** | Serpent's Tail |
| Alan Garner | ***Treacle Walker*** | 4th Estate |
| Shehan Karunatilaka | ***The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*** | Sort of Books |
| Claire Keegan | ***Small Things Like These*** | Faber |
| Graeme Macrae Burnet | ***Case Study*** | Saraband |
| Audrey Magee | ***The Colony*** | Faber |
| Maddie Mortimer | ***Maps of our Spectacular Bodies*** | Picador |
| Leila Mottley | ***Nightcrawling*** | Bloomsbury Circus |
| Selby Wynn Schwartz | ***After Sappho*** | Galley Beggar Press |
| Elizabeth Strout | ***Oh William!*** | Viking |

## Longlist 2021

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Anuk Arudpragasam | ***A Passage North*** | Granta |
| Rachel Cusk | ***Second Place*** | Faber |
| Damon Galgut | ***The Promise*** | Chatto & Windus |
| Nathan Harris | ***The Sweetness of Water*** | Tinder Press |
| Kazuo Ishiguro | ***Klara and the Sun*** | Faber |
| Karen Jennings | ***An Island*** | Holland House Books |
| Mary Lawson | ***A Town Called Solace*** | Chatto & Windus |
| Patricia Lockwood | ***No One is Talking About This*** | Bloomsbury Circus |
| Nadifa Mohamed | ***The Fortune Men*** | Viking |
| Richard Powers | ***Bewilderment*** | Hutchinson Heinemann |
| Sunjeev Sahota | ***China Room*** | Harvill Secker |
| Maggie Shipstead | ***Great Circle*** | Doubleday |
| Francis Spufford | ***Light Perpetual*** | Faber |

## Longlist 2020

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Diane Cook | ***The New Wilderness*** | Oneworld |
| Tsitsi Dangarembga | ***This Mournable Body*** | Faber |
| Avni Doshi | ***Burnt Sugar*** | Hamish Hamilton |
| Gabriel Krauze | ***Who They Was*** | 4th Estate |
| Hilary Mantel | ***The Mirror & the Light*** | 4th Estate |
| Colum McCann | ***Apeirogon*** | Bloomsbury Publishing |
| Maaza Mengiste | ***The Shadow King*** | Canongate |
| Kiley Reid | ***Such a Fun Age*** | Bloomsbury Circus |
| Douglas Stuart | ***Shuggie Bain*** | Picador |
| Brandon Taylor | ***Real Life*** | Daunt Books Publishing |
| Anne Tyler | ***Redhead by the Side of the Road*** | Chatto & Windus |
| Sophie Ward | ***Love and Other Thought Experiments*** | Corsair |
| C Pam Zhang | ***How Much of These Hills is Gold*** | Virago |

## Longlist 2019

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Margaret Atwood | ***The Testaments*** | Chatto & Windus |
| Kevin Barry | ***Night Boat to Tangier*** | Canongate |
| Oyinkan Braithwaite | ***My Sister, The Serial Killer*** | Atlantic Books |
| Lucy Ellmann | ***Ducks, Newburyport*** | Galley Beggar Press |
| Bernardine Evaristo | ***Girl, Woman, Other*** | Hamish Hamilton |
| John Lanchester | ***The Wall*** | Faber |
| Deborah Levy | ***The Man Who Saw Everything*** | Hamish Hamilton |
| Valeria Luiselli | ***Lost Children Archive*** | 4th Estate |
| Chigozie Obioma | ***An Orchestra of Minorities*** | Little, Brown |
| Max Porter | ***Lanny*** | Faber |
| Salman Rushdie | ***Quichotte*** | Jonathan Cape |
| Elif Shafak | ***10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World*** | Viking |
| Jeanette Winterson | ***Frankissstein*** | Jonathan Cape |

# www.thebookerprizes.com

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