



The 2020 Booker Prize for Fiction

Rules & Entry Form

Open for entries from Wednesday 15 January 2020

Please note it is highly desirable and assists the judges if entries are sent immediately when they are available, particularly (but not exclusively) automatic entries for previously shortlisted authors.

Deadline for entry forms Friday 13 March 2020

Deadline for finished works Friday 5 June 2020

2019 Winners

The Testaments
Margaret Atwood
Chatto & Windus

Girl, Woman, Other
Bernardine Evaristo
Hamish Hamilton

www.thebookerprizes.com

#FinestFiction #2020BookerPrize

About the prize

The Booker Prize for Fiction

The Booker Prize 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.

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 prize is overseen by the Foundation's Literary Director.

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. They must do so in accordance with these rules. In making their decisions they must comply with all guidelines and directions given to them by the Foundation's Literary Director, who does so on behalf of the Foundation.

The prize may not be divided or withheld.

Each shortlisted author receives £2,500 and a designer bound copy of his or her 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 2015 to 2019, as follows:

- 1 submission - publishers with no longlisting
- 2 submissions - publishers with 1 or 2 longlisting(s)
- 3 submissions - publishers with 3 or 4 longlistings
- 4 submissions - publishers with 5 or more longlistings

Please see the last page for the 2015 to 2019 longlists.

All submissions, call-in nominations and judges' call-ins are made on a confidential basis as 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 or Ireland by an imprint formally established in the UK or Ireland (see 1b. 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 and where sold in print its books are distributed through national UK retail outlets, and
 - ii 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
 - iii 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. and iii. 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 or Ireland between 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020. 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 1 October 2017.
- 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 his/her 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 Literary Director.
- k) The decision of the Literary Director as to whether a work is eligible will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entered into.

2 Key stages of the prize

- a) General
 - i Completed entry forms must be received by Four Culture by Friday 13 March 2020. Where print or proof copies are already available eight copies together with a PDF of the text must be sent at the same time.
 - ii Friday 5 June 2020 is the deadline for submitting eight copies of the finished texts, which can be final proofs. If final proofs, eight copies of the finished work must then be received by Four Culture as soon as they become available.
 - iii E-books are accepted on condition that the publisher is prepared, if necessary, to send eight bound print copies to Four Culture.
 - iv Unless published only as an ebook, 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). For the requirements if the work is longlisted or shortlisted but not published until after the announcement of the longlist or shortlist, see 2 c. iii. and 2. d. iii. below.
 - v The Literary Director, 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 Friday 5 June 2020, in addition to the entry form, publishers must email to Four Culture a high res image of the book jacket, a press release, author bio and high res colour photograph.

Rules

- b) Call-in nominations
- i Each imprint may also provide, by Friday 13 March 2020, a list of up to five further eligible works. This should be accompanied by a copy or proof of the work plus a justification for each work explaining why it should be considered. If no text is available at the time of call-in, it should be forwarded to Four Culture as soon as it is available.
 - ii 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.
 - iii The justification in each case must not exceed 250 words – excluding, if appended, a brief extract – and must be written and signed by the author’s commissioning editor. (For further information about call-in nominations, please see the attached note from the Literary Director.)
 - iv The judges will call-in no fewer than eight and no more than 12 from all such nominations they receive.
 - v The judges may also call-in any work of long-form fiction published between 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020, 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 ebook 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 ebook, 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 the 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 ebook.
 - 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)
- d) Shortlist
- If a work is shortlisted its publisher will:
- i contribute £5,000 towards general publicity.
 - ii inform rights owners that *accessible copies* for the visually impaired are being produced and distributed (see ** below)
 - iii 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.
- e) Winner
- The publisher of the winning work will contribute a further £5,000 towards general publicity.

** 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 and agree to be filmed from longlist stage on and that if shortlisted, authors will attend the award ceremony. If there is any problem over the author’s availability, Four Culture must be informed immediately.
- b) The publisher, publicist and agent of a longlisted author are strongly advised to attend a briefing meeting that is convened by Four Culture shortly after the longlist 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.

Entry form

The 2020 Booker Prize for Fiction

We have been given a copy of the rules for the above prize. We undertake that should a work published by us be longlisted and/or go on to be shortlisted for and/or win the Booker Prize we will comply with the rules.

A high res image (at least 1mb/300dpi) of the submitted book cover, a press release and author CV and high res colour photograph will follow in an email to ellie.robinson@fourcommunications.com by Friday 5 June 2020.

A list of not more than five further works for consideration by the judges is enclosed.

Note: Books and entry forms must be sent only to Four Culture

Please sign and print

Publishing Director

Name

Publisher (and imprint)

Address

Signature

Submission contact

Name

Telephone

Email

Date

Please return the entry form by Friday 13 March 2020 and eight copies of each work by Friday 5 June 2020 to:

Ellie Robinson
Four Culture
20 St Thomas Street
London SE1 9BF

Email: ellie.robinson@fourcommunications.com
Tel: 020 3697 4482

Entry form

The 2020 Booker Prize for Fiction

Please read the rules carefully before submitting the form.

Please copy for the appropriate number of submissions.

Name of publisher
Name of imprint
Title
Author
Author's website
Full date of birth
Place of birth (town and country)
Current place of residence (town and country)
Country of citizenship
UK or, for works published in Ireland, Irish publication date
Date proofs and download available
Editor's name
Editor's email and tel no
Publicist's name
Publicist's email and tel no
Agent's name (agency and individual)
Agent's email and tel no
If applicable:
Original publication date
Original publisher
Original agent's name (agency and individual)
Original agent's email and tel no

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Ellie Robinson
Four Culture
20 St Thomas Street
London SE1 9BF

Email: ellie.robinson@fourcommunications.com
Tel: 020 3697 4482

Call-in nominations

The 2020 Booker Prize for Fiction

Deadline Friday 13 March 2020

A list of no more than five further works for consideration by the judges.

Give title, author, publisher and imprint, editor, publication date and contact details.

1

2

3

4

5

Publishers are reminded of Rule 2b.i that each work proposed by the publisher as a call-in work must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation by the work's commissioning editor, who must also sign it. This should be accompanied by a copy or proof of the work. New book information sheets produced by a publisher's marketing or publicity department are not acceptable.

Publishers will be informed if a work is being called-in by the judges.

Once a work is called-in, the publisher is required to fill in a submission form and return it to Ellie Robinson at Four Culture (ellie.robinson@fourcommunications.com). The rules of the prize apply equally to call-in nominations and to submitted works.

Ellie Robinson
Four Culture
20 St Thomas Street
London SE1 9BF

Email: ellie.robinson@fourcommunications.com
Tel: 020 3697 4482

The Booker Prize for Fiction

The 2019 longlist

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

The 2018 longlist

Belinda Bauer	<i>Snap</i> Bantam Press
Anna Burns	<i>Milkman</i> Faber & Faber
Nick Draso	<i>Sabrina</i> Granta Books
Esi Edugyan	<i>Washington Black</i> Serpent's Tail
Guy Gunaratne	<i>In Our Mad And Furious City</i> Tinder Press
Daisy Johnson	<i>Everything Under</i> Jonathan Cape
Rachel Kushner	<i>The Mars Room</i> Jonathan Cape
Sophie Mackintosh	<i>The Water Cure</i> Hamish Hamilton
Michael Ondaatje	<i>Warlight</i> Jonathan Cape
Richard Powers	<i>The Overstory</i> William Heinemann
Robin Robertson	<i>The Long Take</i> Picador
Sally Rooney	<i>Normal People</i> Faber & Faber
Donal Ryan	<i>From A Low And Quiet Sea</i> Doubleday Ireland

The 2017 longlist

Paul Auster	<i>4321</i> Faber & Faber
Sebastian Barry	<i>Days Without End</i> Faber & Faber
Emily Fridlund	<i>History of Wolves</i> Weidenfeld & Nicolson
Mohsin Hamid	<i>Exit West</i> Hamish Hamilton
Mike McCormack	<i>Solar Bones</i> Canongate Books
Jon McGregor	<i>Reservoir 13</i> 4th Estate
Fiona Mozley	<i>Elmet</i> JM Originals
Arundhati Roy	<i>The Ministry of Utmost Happiness</i> Hamish Hamilton

George Saunders	<i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i> Bloomsbury Publishing
Kamila Shamsie	<i>Home Fire</i> Bloomsbury Circus
Ali Smith	<i>Autumn</i> Hamish Hamilton
Zadie Smith	<i>Swing Time</i> Hamish Hamilton
Colson Whitehead	<i>The Underground Railroad</i> Fleet

The 2016 longlist

Paul Beatty	<i>The Sellout</i> Oneworld
J.M. Coetzee	<i>The Schooldays of Jesus</i> Harvill Secker
A.L. Kennedy	<i>Serious Sweet</i> Jonathan Cape
Deborah Levy	<i>Hot Milk</i> Hamish Hamilton
Graeme Macrae Burnet	<i>His Bloody Project</i> Contraband
Ian McGuire	<i>The North Water</i> Scribner UK
David Means	<i>Hystopia</i> Faber & Faber
Wyl Menmuir	<i>The Many Salt</i>
Otessa Moshfegh	<i>Eileen</i> Jonathan Cape
Virginia Reeves	<i>Work Like Any Other</i> Scribner UK
Elizabeth Strout	<i>My Name is Lucy Barton</i> Viking
David Szalay	<i>All That Man Is</i> Jonathan Cape
Madeleine Thien	<i>Do Not Say We Have Nothing</i> Granta

The 2015 longlist

Bill Clegg	<i>Did You Ever Have a Family</i> Jonathan Cape
Anne Enright	<i>The Green Road</i> Jonathan Cape
Marlon James	<i>A Brief History of Seven Killings</i> Oneworld
Laila Lalami	<i>The Moor's Account</i> Garnet Publishing
Tom McCarthy	<i>Satin Island</i> Jonathan Cape
Chigozie Obioma	<i>The Fishermen</i> Pushkin Press
Andrew O'Hagan	<i>The Illuminations</i> Faber & Faber
Marilynne Robinson	<i>Lila</i> Virago
Anuradha Roy	<i>Sleeping on Jupiter</i> MacLehose Press
Sunjeev Sahota	<i>The Year of the Runaways</i> Picador
Anna Smail	<i>The Chimes</i> Sceptre
Anne Tyler	<i>A Spool of Blue Thread</i> Chatto & Windus
Hanya Yanagihara	<i>A Little Life</i> Picador