



The 2017 Man Booker Prize for Fiction

# Rules

2016 Winner

*The Sellout* by Paul Beatty

Oneworld Publications

[www.themanbookerprize.com](http://www.themanbookerprize.com)

#FinestFiction

# About the prize

## The Man Booker Prize for Fiction

The Man Booker Prize is awarded annually by the Booker Prize Foundation to the author of the best (in the opinion of the judges) eligible novel.

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 administered by the Foundation's Literary Director.

The judges are responsible for compiling a longlist of 12 or 13 books – 'The Man Booker Dozen' – and from this a shortlist of six books from which they then choose the winner.

Each shortlisted author receives **£2,500** and a designer bound copy of his or her novel.

The winning author receives a further **£50,000**.

The prize may not be divided or withheld.

Note that prior to 2002 the prize was known as the Booker Prize and throughout the Rules & Entry form a reference to the prize includes, where the context is appropriate, reference to the Booker Prize and the Man Booker Prize.

## Publishers' entry quotas

Novels to be considered by the judges can only be submitted by the publishers identified in 1a. below. The number of novels a publisher can submit will depend on that publisher's inclusion in longlists from 2012 to 2016, 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 2011 to 2015 longlists.

All submissions, call-in nominations and judges' call-ins are made on a confidential basis.

# RULES

## 1 Eligibility

- a) Any novel in print or electronic format, written originally in English and published in the UK by an imprint formally established in the UK (see 1b. below) is eligible. The imprint must publish a list of at least two literary fiction novels by different authors each year. These two will not include a novel by the publisher. If the publisher is a company, the two will not include a novel by the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company.
- b) In determining whether the novel 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 novel in question is one for which the publisher has been allocated a UK International Standard Book Number, and
  - iv. the novel is one which must be deposited with the British Library pursuant to the Legal Deposit Library Acts (2003 & 2013) and any regulations relating to these Acts
- c) The novel must be published in the UK between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017. If it has previously been published outside the UK it will only be eligible if the original date of publication outside the UK is within the previous two years, ie not earlier than 1 October 2014.
- d) Every submitted novel must be a unified and substantial work.
- e) No English translation of a novel written originally in any other language is eligible.
- f) Self published novels are not eligible where the author is the publisher. If the publisher is a company which has been specifically set up to publish the novel in question, and/or the author is the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company, the novel is ineligible.
- g) No novel is ineligible because its author has previously won either this prize or any other prize.
- h) As long as it otherwise complies with all the rules of the prize, any novel 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.
- i) The author of the novel must be living at the time it is submitted or called in. The novel 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.
- j) The decision of the Literary Director as to whether a novel is eligible shall 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 Colman Getty by Friday 10 March 2017. 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 16 June 2017 is the deadline for submitting eight copies of the finished texts, which can be final proofs. If final proofs, eight copies of the finished novel must then be received by Four Colman Getty 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 Colman Getty.
  - iv. Unless published only as an ebook, at the date of publication of the novel at least 1,000 copies must be available for retail in the UK. For the requirements if the novel is longlisted but not published until after the announcement of the longlist, see 2 c. iii. below.
  - v. The Literary Director, in consultation with the chair of the judges, may reject any revised proof or finished copy which differs substantially or materially from a first submitted proof, and the novel concerned will not be further considered.
  - vi. By Friday 16 June 2017, in addition to the entry form, publishers must email to Four Colman Getty a high res image of the book jacket, a press release, author biog and photograph.

# RULES

- b) Call-in nominations
- i. Each imprint may also provide, by Friday 10 March 2017, a list of up to five further eligible novels. This should be accompanied by a copy or proof of the novel plus a justification for each novel explaining why it should be considered. If no text is available at the time of call-in, it should be forwarded to Four Colman Getty as soon as it is available.
  - ii. An imprint which only publishes one literary fiction novel a year may provide a justification for that novel as long as the novel is otherwise eligible.
  - iii. The justification in each case must not exceed 250 words and must be written and signed by the author's commissioning editor.
  - 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 novel published between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017, even if that novel has not been submitted or nominated for call in by a publisher. If the publisher agrees that the novel 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 novel will not be further considered without this signed undertaking.
- c) Longlist
- If a novel is longlisted its publisher will:
- i. where the novel concerned was published before the announcement of the longlist and when submitted, or called in, was only available in print format, make the novel available for sale as an ebook within 10 days of the announcement of the longlist. If publication is after the announcement of the longlist.
  - ii. where the novel 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 within 10 days of the announcement of the longlist.
  - iii. where the novel concerned is published after the announcement of the longlist, then on the publication date there must be the minimum of 1,000 print copies available for retail sale and the novel must also be available for sale as an ebook.
  - iv. use best endeavours to ensure that where print runs of the longlisted novel (wherever it is published) refer to the longlisting on the front or back cover, Man Booker Prize branding will be used; the UK publisher must bring this requirement to the attention of the literary agent and, where the UK publisher is able, to its counterpart(s) elsewhere. This requirement applies if the novel 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 novel 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. have two copies of each shortlisted book in folded and collated form ready to be delivered to a bookbinder within 48 hours of the announcement of the shortlist. If this should prove impossible, Four Colman Getty must be informed immediately. Four Colman Getty will supply shortlisted publishers with the name and address of the bookbinder to whom the copies must be sent.
- e) Winner
- The publisher of the winning novel 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 books are submitted or called in make themselves available for publicity and events 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 Colman Getty must be informed immediately.
- b) The publisher, publicist and agent of a longlisted author are strongly advised to attend a briefing meeting which is convened by Four Colman Getty shortly after the longlist is announced.
- c) None of the print copies which are required as part of the submissions process or as call-ins will be returned to the publishers.

# The Man Booker Prize for Fiction

## 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 Smaill	<i>The Chimes</i> Sceptre
Anne Tyler	<i>A Spool of Blue Thread</i> Chatto & Windus
Hanya Yanagihara	<i>A Little Life</i> Picador

## The 2014 longlist

Joshua Ferris	<i>To Rise Again at a Decent Hour</i> Viking
Richard Flanagan	<i>The Narrow Road to the Deep North</i> Chatto & Windus
Karen Joy Fowler	<i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i> Serpent's Tail
Siri Hustvedt	<i>The Blazing World</i> Sceptre
Howard Jacobson	<i>J</i> Jonathan Cape

Paul Kingsnorth	<i>The Wake Unbound</i>
David Mitchell	<i>The Bone Clocks</i> Sceptre
Neel Mukherjee	<i>The Lives of Others</i> Chatto & Windus
David Nicholls	<i>Us</i> Hodder & Stoughton
Joseph O'Neill	<i>The Dog</i> Fourth Estate
Richard Powers	<i>Orfeo</i> Atlantic Books
Ali Smith	<i>How to be Both</i> Hamish Hamilton
Niall Williams	<i>History of the Rain</i> Bloomsbury

## The 2013 longlist

Tash Aw	<i>Five Star Billionaire</i> Fourth Estate
NoViolet Bulawayo	<i>We Need New Names</i> Chatto & Windus
Eleanor Catton	<i>The Luminaries</i> Granta
Jim Crace	<i>Harvest</i> Picador
Eve Harris	<i>The Marrying of Chani Kaufman</i> Sandstone Press
Richard House	<i>The Kills</i> Picador
Jhumpa Lahiri	<i>The Lowland</i> Bloomsbury
Alison MacLeod	<i>Unexploded</i> Hamish Hamilton
Colum McCann	<i>TransAtlantic</i> Bloomsbury
Charlotte Mendelson	<i>Almost English</i> Mantle
Ruth Ozeki	<i>A Tale for the Time Being</i> Canongate
Donal Ryan	<i>The Spinning Heart</i> Doubleday Ireland
Colm Tóibín	<i>The Testament of Mary</i> Viking

## The 2012 longlist

Nicola Barker	<i>The Yips</i> Fourth Estate
Ned Beauman	<i>The Teleportation Accident</i> Sceptre
André Brink	<i>Philida</i> Harvill Secker
Tan Twan Eng	<i>The Garden of Evening Mists</i> Myrmidon Books
Michael Frayn	<i>Skios</i> Faber & Faber
Rachel Joyce	<i>The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry</i> Doubleday
Deborah Levy	<i>Swimming Home</i> And Other Stories
Hilary Mantel	<i>Bring up the Bodies</i> Fourth Estate
Alison Moore	<i>The Lighthouse</i> Salt
Will Self	<i>Umbrella</i> Bloomsbury
Jeet Thayil	<i>Narcopolis</i> Faber & Faber
Sam Thompson	<i>Communion Town</i> Fourth Estate