



Call for Submissions to the 2020 HarperCollins*PublishersLtd*/UBC Prize for Best New Fiction

Open to current students and alumni of the UBC Creative Writing Program

In 2013 HarperCollins*PublishersLtd*, The University of British Columbia Creative Writing Program and CookeMcDermid Literary Agency (then The Cooke Agency) launched a prize for new fiction written by students and alumni of the university's prestigious creative writing course. The first five years of the prize have culminated in an impressive list of winners, including the novels THE GHOST KEEPER by Natalie Morrill and THE DUTCH WIFE by Ellen Keith, and the forthcoming FIVE LITTLE INDIANS by Michelle Good.

We are pleased to be administering the sixth edition of the now biannual Prize and to announce this year's call for submissions. Submissions open at 12:01AM PDT on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 and will close at 11:59PM PDT on Thursday, April 30, 2020. Rules and Regulations including direction on how to submit a manuscript are posted at <http://creativewriting.ubc.ca/current-students/hc-ubc-prize/>. Submissions should be sent to bestnewfictionprize@cookemcdermid.com in the format outlined in the Rules and Regulations. Questions may be directed to Alix Ohlin at alix.ohlin@ubc.ca.

The HarperCollins*PublishersLtd*/UBC Prize for Best New Fiction awards a contract for representation by CookeMcDermid Literary Agency and a contract from HarperCollins*PublishersLtd* for publication of the winning novel or short story collection.

CookeMcDermid was founded in 2017 when two preeminent literary agencies, The Cooke Agency and The McDermid Agency, amalgamated, combining nearly 50 years of experience. We are a full service, client-focused agency that brings a strong team approach to all of our endeavours. CookeMcDermid is fully Canadian-owned and operated, with offices in Toronto and Vancouver. We proudly represent almost 400 national and international award-winning authors of quality fiction and non-fiction. Our sister company, The Cooke Agency International (CI), was launched in 2009 to sell foreign rights on behalf of Canadian publishers and literary agencies. CI sells foreign rights into dozens of territories.

HarperCollins*PublishersLtd* imprints include HarperCollins*Publishers*, Harper Avenue, Harper*Perennial*, Collins, and Patrick Crean Editions. These imprints publish the finest writers from Canada and around the world, including such fiction authors as Nancy Richler, Dianne Warren, Emily St. John Mandel, Arif Anwar, Emma Donoghue, Tracey Lindberg, Lawrence Hill, Rachel Cusk, Cathy Marie Buchanan, Tom King, Heather O’Neill, Hilary Mantel, Shilpi Somaya Gowda and a great many others. HarperCollins is committed to publishing new writers and to building authors’ careers. HarperCollins*PublishersLtd* has published first books by UBC MFA graduates Michael Christie and Kelli Deeth and as well as debut short story writers and novelists Ayelet Tsabari, Mallory Tater, Janie Chang and Rebecca Silver Slayter.

Administration of this competition requires that UBC, HarperCollins*PublishersLtd* and CookeMcDermid meet certain federal and provincial regulations. Please have a look at the rules for submission at <http://creativewriting.ubc.ca/current-students/hc-ubc-prize/>. The language is necessarily legal in nature. Please do not let this in any way discourage your participation. The Rules and Regulations govern administration of the prize only and are separate from the publishing and agency contracts which are industry standard and offer a great opportunity to launch a writing career with a major literary agency and one of Canada’s leading publishing companies.

The shortlist for this year's prize will be notified by August 31, 2020 and the winner will be notified by September 30, 2020. We would like to thank you for participating in this year's competition and are looking forward to reading your work. The challenge of selecting a winner is sure to be a rewarding task.

Sincerely,

CookeMcDermid Literary Agency