



April 12, 2024

To prospective entrants of the HarperCollins Publishers Ltd/UBC Prize for Best New Fiction, presented in conjunction with the CookeMcDermid Literary Agency.

It is my pleasure to invite submissions from current UBC students and alumni for consideration in the 2024 Prize for Best New Fiction. HarperCollins is proud to continue our collaboration with the UBC School of Creative Writing and the CookeMcDermid Literary Agency on this award. We have an impressive decade of shared history with this prize, which reflects the strength and talent found in the UBC MFA program.

At HarperCollins Canada, we take great pride in welcoming each new winner to their new publishing home. Our editorial department is invested in the care and development of each winning manuscript, while our sales, marketing and publicity departments bring their energy and enthusiasm to each book we publish. As a company we are committed to the success of our authors, and our aim is to build long-term careers and not only individual books. We see this prize as a way for graduates of the UBC Creative Writing Program to jumpstart their careers in Canada and around the world, which is evident in the success of our past winners.

Our most recent 2022 prize-winner was Tammy Armstrong, with her novel now titled *Pearly Everlasting*, which will publish with HarperCollins Canada and HarperCollins US this year, and Diogenes, a literary publisher in Germany, next year. Previous winner Jasmine Sealy won the Amazon First Novel Award with her novel *The Island of Forgetting*. Rights to her novel were also sold to the Borough Press, who published the book in the UK. Another recent winner, *Five Little Indians* by Michelle Good, has either won or been shortlisted for every literary prize in the country, and was one of the top bestselling books in Canada for more than two years after publication. We published Michelle's next book, a work of non-fiction called *Truth Telling*, in 2023. Earlier winners include Ellen Keith's *The Dutch Wife*, which was a bestseller in both Canada and the US and was sold into five additional foreign territories for publication. We also published Ellen's follow up, *The Dutch Orphan*, which also published in the US. Natalie Morrill's *The Ghost Keeper*, was one of our first prize winners, and her novel went on to win the Jewish Book Award. We look forward to continuing our work with these authors and extend our congratulations to them, and to all of you for your excellent work and your commitment to your craft.

The HarperCollins Publishers Ltd/UBC Prize for Best New Fiction is awarded bi-annually. Please do consider submitting your work this year. The next opportunity will be in 2026.

We are looking forward to discovering our next shortlist and winner for 2024. The prize Rules and Regulations are available through the UBC School of Creative Writing, but in short, submissions are open

for a manuscript of no less than 60,000 words, for novels or short stories, starting May 1, 2024 until May 31, 2024. The winner, chosen by CookeMcDermid and the editorial team of HarperCollins, will be offered representation by CookeMcDermid and a standard contract to publish from HarperCollins, with a negotiated advance. The shortlisted authors will all have the opportunity to engage in an editorial discussion about their work with a HarperCollins editor. We will notify a shortlist by the end of August and the winner by the end of September.

We hope you will submit your work. The rules and regulations for the prize can be found at <http://creativewriting.ubc.ca/current-students/hc-ubc-prize/>. The submission contact is [bestnewfictionprize@cookemcdermid.com](mailto:bestnewfictionprize@cookemcdermid.com). Annabel Lyon at [annabel.lyon@ubc.ca](mailto:annabel.lyon@ubc.ca) can help you with questions.

Iris Tupholme  
Senior Vice President and Executive Publisher  
HarperCollinsPublishersLtd