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The BBC International Short Story Award 2012

The British Broadcasting Corporation in association with Booktrust

Award of **£15,000** for the winner

£2,500 for the runner-up

£250 for eight (8) further shortlisted stories

Entry Instructions

Entry Dates

- Submissions for the BBC International Short Story Award 2012 will be accepted from **Friday 9 December 2011**
- The **deadline** for receipt of entries is **5pm (GMT) Monday 27 February 2012**

How to Enter

Applicants are encouraged to make their submission by email. Paper copies will also be accepted.

Instructions for Entering by email

1. Read the **Entry Terms and Conditions** thoroughly to check the author whose work is due to be submitted is eligible for the Award. Submission of an entry is taken as acceptance of all the Terms and Conditions.
2. Type and **format** the short story as per the following instructions:
 - One entry per author
 - Written in English
 - A maximum of 8,000 words
 - Typed
 - Font: Arial, 12pt, black
 - Double spaced
 - No page numbers
 - Include a front page which details the title of story and the word count.
3. Save as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx) with the author name in the file name as per the following example: *Short Story William Shakespeare* (N.B. if the Short Story has already been published you can send the typeset PDF file instead).

4. Download the **Entry Form** from www.booktrust.org.uk/bbcissa

- In order to download the entry form your computer must have the latest version of Adobe Reader installed, this can be obtained by visiting:
<http://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/>
- Open the saved PDF file and fill in your details including the author's record of creative writing publication in the United Kingdom, ensuring all the text sections and appropriate boxes are completed or checked.
- Save your additions to the PDF by clicking 'File/Save As' with the author name in the file name as per the following example: *Entry Form William Shakespeare*.
- Before attaching the PDF to your submission email, please close and re-open the completed entry form to ensure your text has been saved.

5. Attach both documents to an email, with the author's name in the subject line, and send to:
bbcissa@booktrust.org.uk

Instructions for Entering by Post

1. Read the **Entry Terms and Conditions** thoroughly to check the author whose work is due to be submitted is eligible for the Award. Submission of an entry is taken as acceptance of all the Terms and Conditions.
2. Type and **format** the short story as per the following instructions:
 - One entry per author
 - Written in English
 - A maximum of 8,000 words
 - Typed
 - Font: Arial, 12pt, black
 - Double spaced
 - No page numbers
 - Include a front page which details the title of story and the word count.
3. Print eight (8) copies of the typed short story (single sided on white A4 paper).
4. Download the **Entry Form** from www.booktrust.org.uk/bbcissa, print and fill it in, including details of the author's record of creative writing publication in the United Kingdom.
5. Send all documents together in the post to:

The BBC International Short Story Award 2012
C/O Booktrust
Book House
45 East Hill
London
SW18 2QZ

Please note

- Entries not submitted in accordance with the Entry Instructions and Entry Terms and Conditions will not be eligible for consideration.
- No entries can be returned.
- Due to the volume of entries for the Award, there will be no acknowledgement of receipt for entries submitted by post. Entries submitted by email will receive an automated acknowledgement.



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Entry Terms and Conditions

Please read this document in full to ensure that the author whose work is due to be submitted is eligible for the Award. Instructions on entering can be found in the Entry Instructions on pages 1 and 2.

1. THE AWARD

1.1 In order to establish a manageable longlist, all entries will initially be read by at least two (2) sifters from mixed teams chosen by the BBC and Booktrust. The best stories will be put forward to the judges who will be responsible for compiling a shortlist of ten (10) outstanding short stories submitted for the BBC International Short Story Award 2012 ("the Award"), from which they will select the winning story and runner-up.

1.2 The winning award is worth **£15,000** and this will be presented to the author of the best, eligible short story in the opinion of the judges.

1.3 There will be a runner-up award of **£2,500** for the second placed story.

1.4 There will be eight (8) awards of **£250** for the other eight shortlisted stories.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 The Award is open to writers of all nationalities residing anywhere in the world who have a prior record of publication in creative writing in the United Kingdom (see Clause 2.8).

2.2 The Award is open to authors writing in the English language, aged 18 years or over.

2.3 The story must not contain more than eight thousand (8,000) words.

2.4 Entries may be submitted by the author or by his/her publisher or agent.

2.5 Stories which were previously entered into either the National Short Story Prize 2006 or 2007 or the BBC National Short Story Award 2008, 2009, 2010 or 2011 are ineligible.

2.6 Authors can only enter individually, and not as part of a writing team. No more than **one** story per author may be submitted. It is the responsibility of the author to make sure that there is not more than one of his/her stories submitted in total. If more than one story is submitted, only the first story received will be considered.

2.7 The story entered must either:

2.7.1 be unpublished; or

2.7.2 be first published or scheduled for publication after 1 March 2011.

2.8 The author must have a record of prior publication in creative writing in the United Kingdom. This means the author must previously have had works of prose fiction, drama or poetry published by an established UK publisher or an established printed magazine in the UK, or broadcast by a national radio station in the UK.

2.8.1 For avoidance of doubt 'established UK publisher' means a publishing house that publishes a list of titles by different authors, that produces titles with an ISBN and sells them in pounds sterling, and that distributes them through established retail outlets.

2.8.2 For avoidance of doubt 'established printed magazine' means a periodical that is published regularly (monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly), that has been and is currently in circulation for at least the past 12 months, has an ISBN or ISSN number and is not self-published.

2.8.3 None of the following will constitute a 'record of prior publication':

2.8.3.1 self-published material of any kind

2.8.3.2 work published using a print-on-demand service

2.8.3.3 work published via commercial arrangement through which the publisher is paid by the author

2.8.3.4 online publication

2.9 The story submitted must be and by submission of this form is warranted to be original, fictional, and entirely the author's own work, not infringe the copyright or any other rights of any third party and not be defamatory of any living person or corporate body and be suitable for broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

2.10 The Award is not open to employees of the BBC, Booktrust or anyone connected with the Award or their direct family members. Proof of identity and eligibility may be requested.

2.11. Entries are limited to stories written in English. Translations of short stories originally written in languages other than English are not eligible for the Award.

2.12 A short story that was published posthumously will not be eligible for the Award.

3. COPYRIGHT AND TERMS OF USE

3.1 By submitting a story for the Award the entrant hereby acknowledges and agrees that the winning or any other shortlisted story:

3.1.1 may be read out or reproduced in a BBC programme, and broadcast (in whole or in part) (including repeats and trails) on the BBC's publicly funded services which includes its radio services and via the BBC's website and on-line services (including on the BBC's iPlayer), and the BBC World Service, as well as featured in a BBC podcast available for permanent download.

3.1.2 By submitting a story for the Award the entrant hereby acknowledges and agrees that the winning or any other shortlisted story will be made available for publication on Booktrust's website at www.booktrust.org.uk/bbcissa free of any fees or royalty payments.

Such uses would be subject to a separate agreement between the entrant and the BBC, including payment of broadcast fees in accordance with the BBC's appropriate standard terms and conditions for use of the work. The entrant agrees to accept the BBC's appropriate standard terms and conditions for these uses. Further to this, by submitting the story the entrant confirms there is no restriction in respect of the story which would prevent the above.

3.2 By submitting a story the entrant agrees that the BBC may in its sole discretion edit, adapt or abridge it for the sole purposes of broadcast.

3.3 In the event that an official International Short Story Award Anthology containing the shortlisted entries is published the author or publisher will be deemed to have granted the rights for such publication and distribution (including via electronic distribution such as Kindle) and they or their agents will clear the necessary rights for such publication and distribution. The rights for publication will be non-exclusive, with no bar on publication rights elsewhere and the Anthology will include full acknowledgement of any existing publication containing the winning story or shortlisted stories.

4. JUDGING

4.1 The BBC International Short Story Award will be looking for the best new writing emerging since March 2011, and will consider all entries on the basis of quality and originality of prose and narrative voice. The Award aims to support and award excellence in the short story genre.

4.2 Judging of the Award will be as follows:

Stage 1: All entries will be read and judged by a team of readers against the Award criteria. A Longlist of approximately the best 60 stories will then be put forward to the judging panel.

Stage 2: At this stage the judging panel has the right to call in titles they deem to be noteworthy for consideration that have been entered for the Award.

Stage 3: The judging panel will read all Longlisted stories and will select a shortlist of ten (10) outstanding short stories submitted for the Award.

Stage 4: The judging panel will together discuss and agree on the winning and runner-up story. In reaching its decisions, the judges will adopt a preferential voting system. In the unlikely event of there being a tie decision, the Chairperson will have the casting vote.

4.3 Winners will be contacted personally by email or by telephone.

4.4 The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

4.5 The judging will be fair and independent. The judging panel will be appointed by the Award Committee and will include a representative from the BBC and distinguished literary professionals.

4.6 This award complies with the BBC's editorial guidelines. Any permitted reference to the Award by the winner and shortlisted writers will be outlined by the BBC. Please see: www.bbc.co.uk/guidelines/editorialguidelines/advice/interactivity/code/

5. ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATION

5.1 The Award Committee will consist of representatives from the BBC and Booktrust.

5.2 If entries are submitted by post, then entry forms, including the author's record of prior publication in the United Kingdom, and eight (8) copies of the short stories being submitted for the Award must be received at the address stated by 5pm (GMT) on Monday 27 February 2012. For entries submitted by email, entry forms, including the author's record of prior publication in the United Kingdom, and one copy of each short story submitted for the Award must be received at bbcissa@booktrust.org.uk by 5pm (GMT) on Monday 27 February 2012.

5.3 The shortlist and winner are likely to be announced by September 2012. Both announcements will be published on the BBC website (www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/issa) and on the Booktrust Website (www.booktrust.org.uk/issa). Please check back on the websites for updates. In addition, a list of stories highly commended by the judges will also be published on both websites as an addendum to the announcement of the shortlist if it is deemed appropriate. By entering the Award, the entrant

consents to their name and the title of their story being published on these websites in the event only of their story being shortlisted or commended by the judges.

5.4 Entrants must provide their name, e-mail address or telephone number and postal address. The competition will be administered by the BBC and Booktrust. The BBC and Booktrust will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition, and will not publish them or provide them without permission to anyone not involved in the administration of this competition. If you would like to know more about the BBC's privacy policy, please see Privacy Policy [www.bbc.co.uk/privacy/].

5.5 The Award Committee will not acknowledge receipt of paper entries and does not accept any responsibility for late lost or damaged entries. Electronic entries will receive an email acknowledgement. Proof of sending is not proof of receipt.

5.6 Entrants must supply full details as required above, and comply with all rules to be eligible for the award(s). Ineligible, obscene or fraudulent entries will be automatically disqualified.

5.7 Please note that no stories entered can be returned.

5.8 The Award Committee reserves the right to cancel this competition at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, or if circumstances arise outside of its control.

5.9 The Award Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to the Award for any reason at its absolute discretion. No discussion will be entered into.

5.10 By submitting a story the entrant agrees to (or if the entrant is the Author's publisher or agent has secured the author's agreement that the author will) make every attempt to attend the Award ceremony in the event of being shortlisted for the Award, and to also in the event of winning the Award undertake a mutually acceptable limited programme of activities to promote the Award particularly immediately after the shortlist and winner is announced.

5.10.1 For the avoidance of doubt, any publisher or agent who submits an Entry on behalf of its author shall be responsible for inviting and making every attempt to ensure their author's attendance at the Award ceremony (if one is held) and any further activity agreed. Entrants are responsible for all reasonable costs associated with attending the Award ceremony.

5.11 The entrant agrees that they will contribute where possible to press and publicity activities for the Award and hereby grant the BBC and Booktrust all necessary rights in their contribution for press/publicity activities for the Award for all media in perpetuity. The entrant agrees to obtain the BBC's prior written consent before taking on any of its own press or publicity activity relating to their involvement in the Award.

5.12 Entrants will be deemed to have accepted these rules and to have agreed to be bound by them when entering this competition.

5.13 A publisher or agent who submits a story on behalf of an author shall be deemed by the act of submitting that author's story for the BBC International Short Story Award 2012 to have obtained the author's informed consent and approval of all terms and conditions contained herein and to have taken on the responsibility of guaranteeing and procuring the author's compliance with the terms and conditions set out herein. If such publisher or agent has failed to do so, the Award Committee may at its sole discretion disqualify the entry and / or reclaim any award and revise the short-list and (if applicable) winning entry.

5.14 These rules and the entry submitted in accordance with them shall constitute a contract governed by the exclusive laws and the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.