



WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION 2027

Terms and conditions of entry

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

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INTRODUCTION

The Women's Prize for Non-Fiction celebrates narrative non-fiction written by female thought-leaders, changemakers and experts, recognising excellence in writing and research, strong and original narrative voices, and accessibility. The winner receives £30,000.

The Prize is delivered by the Women's Prize Trust.

ABOUT THE WOMEN'S PRIZE TRUST

The Women's Prize Trust is the registered charity (no. 1181253) building a better future by championing women's writing.

The Trust believes that every woman's voice has the power to elicit and inspire change – across ages, races, borders and backgrounds. The charity's mission is to tackle the gender disparity within the world of books by championing women's writing at every stage – celebrating exceptional books, nurturing talent and putting women's words into the hands of more readers. This work is more vital than ever.

The Trust is behind the Women's Prize for Fiction, the largest celebration of women's creativity in the world, and the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, recognising brilliant writing by female thought-leaders, changemakers and experts.

Alongside these flagship Prizes, the charity supports new voices, helping to unlock potential, boost confidence, and increase skills and knowledge through writer development programmes such as Discoveries. It also inspires a global, inclusive community of readers, sharing stories and information to reduce isolation, build empathy and enhance social cohesion.



Key dates and deadlines

2026

SEPTEMBER

1

Tuesday 1 September 2026

- **Submissions open.** Entry forms are online at:
<https://womensprize.com/womens-prize-for-non-fiction-2027-submissions/>

SEPTEMBER

18

DEADLINE: Friday 18 September 2026

- Complete **online entry forms** for submissions in all categories including call-in suggestions.

SEPTEMBER

18

DEADLINE: Friday 18 September 2026

- Supply digital text files and 6 (six) finished copies of titles published between 1 April 2026 and 30 September 2026.

OCTOBER

30

DEADLINE: Friday 30 October 2026

- Supply digital text files and 6 (six) finished copies of titles published between 1 October 2026 and 30 November 2026.

DECEMBER

4

DEADLINE: Friday 4 December 2026

- Supply digital text files and 3 x (three) bound proofs and/or 6 (six) finished copies of titles published between 1 December 2026 and 31 March 2027.



SUBMISSIONS

Publishers should send bound proofs in the first instance if finished copies are not yet available, but all finished copies should be delivered as soon as possible (before the applicable deadline).



ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS

- Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2027
Big Yellow Hanger Lane
Quill Street, Alperton
London W5 1DN



NEED HELP?

- If you have any queries, please email us at:
nonfiction@womensprize.com

Announcement dates

2026 ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCTOBER 21	Wednesday 21 October 2026 ➤ WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION 2027 JUDGES' ANNOUNCEMENT
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2027 ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



SCHEDULING

The exact time of each announcement will be shared closer to the date.

FEBRUARY 10	Wednesday 10 February 2027 ➤ WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION 2027 LONGLIST ANNOUNCEMENT
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APRIL 7	Wednesday 7 April 2027 ➤ WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION 2027 SHORTLIST ANNOUNCEMENT
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JUNE 16	Wednesday 16 June 2027 ➤ WOMEN'S PRIZE LIVE & SHORTLIST EVENT
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JUNE 17	Thursday 17 June 2027 ➤ WOMEN'S PRIZE TRUST ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY & WINNERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS Please refer to section 3.17 (page 8) regarding the winning author's publicity commitments following the announcement.
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1 THE WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION



The **Charlotte** is awarded annually to the winner of the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction.

- 1.1 The judges for the 2027 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction (the Prize) consider the titles submitted using the guiding tenets of excellence, originality and accessibility. For the purposes of judging, 'excellence' means excellence in quality of writing, research and delivery; 'originality' means originality of ideas, vision and research; and 'accessibility' means titles that look outwards to a cross-section of readers.
- 1.2 The judges will be responsible for compiling a longlist of no more nor fewer than sixteen of the books submitted for the Prize. For inclusion in this longlist, a title should have the full support of at least one judge in whose opinion it is a valid contender for the shortlist.
- 1.3 The judges will be responsible for compiling a shortlist of no more nor fewer than six of the books submitted for the Prize. For inclusion in this shortlist, a title should have the full support of at least one judge in whose opinion it is a valid contender for the Prize itself.
- 1.4 The judges will be responsible for selecting one winner. The Prize may not be divided or withheld. The winner receives £30,000 and a sculpture named 'the Charlotte' (both gifted by the Charlotte Aitken Trust).
- 1.5 The decision of the judges at all stages will be final.

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Any narrative non-fiction book written in English by a woman of any nationality is eligible.
- 2.2 Books from all narrative non-fiction categories intended for general readership (commonly known as 'trade non-fiction') are encouraged. This includes but is not limited to: autobiography, biography, economics, history, memoir, mind body spirit, music, philosophy, politics, psychology, nature writing, science, self-improvement, smart thinking and sport.
- 2.3 All books must be written by a single human author. Works created, written, or generated in whole or in part using generative artificial intelligence tools are not eligible.
- 2.4 Books written by one author on behalf of another are not eligible. This includes books with named or un-credited ghost writers or editorial mentors. The only exception is where a work has been transcribed by an amanuensis. Books written by two or more authors are not eligible.
- 2.5 All books must be unified works. Collections of essays, columns and other writing previously published by an author is permissible if there is a unifying thread through the book and if 50% of the book is new and/or unpublished.
- 2.6 All books must be substantial works, with a minimum word count for entries of 30,000.
- 2.7 Translations of books originally written in languages other than English are not eligible.



QUESTIONS?

If you have any queries about eligibility, please email us at: nonfiction@womensprize.com



The Women's Prize for Non-Fiction is run by the Women's Prize Trust. The Trust is a registered charity (no. 1181253)

- 2.8 All entries (bar suggested call-in titles) must be submitted by the relevant deadline in print form (six finished copies **or** three proofs with finished copies to follow), as well as digitally, as a typeset or print-ready PDF and ePub file when available.
- 2.9 Audio files may also be requested for submissions; publishers will be contacted by email if audio files (or discount codes providing free access) of individual titles are required.
- 2.10 All entries must be first published as a print or e-book edition in the United Kingdom between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027, although they may have been previously published outside the UK. Titles with simultaneous UK and US publications, or UK and Republic of Ireland publications, within this timeframe are eligible.
- 2.11 All entries must be produced by an established publishing house for adult titles based in the UK. 'Established' is here defined as a house which publishes a list of at least three non-fiction titles by different authors and with ISBNs every year, and distributes its books nationally through established retail and/or online outlets. For the avoidance of doubt, 'established' publishing house does not include print-on-demand services or companies who publish titles via a commercial arrangement through which they are paid by the author. The publishing house must have a registered UK address and company number, visible in the Companies House online directory. Any book submitted must have a UK ISBN, have the price printed in pounds sterling and be distributed in the UK through established retail and/or online outlets.
- 2.12 Self-published books are not eligible for the Prize, where the author is the publisher. If the publisher is a company which has been specifically set up to publish the title in question, and/or the author is the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company, the title is ineligible for the Prize.
- 2.13 It is the responsibility of the publisher to ensure that any title they submit for the Prize is eligible.
- 2.14 It is the responsibility of the publisher to ascertain that the author of any title they submit for the Prize gives their consent to entry prior to submission and that the author will abide by the terms and conditions throughout the prize process.
- 2.15 It is the responsibility of the publisher to ensure that all team members interacting with the Prize and the author abides by the Women's Prize Trust's **code of conduct** throughout the prize process.
- 2.16 The author of any title submitted must be alive at the date of submissions opening.
- 2.17 The decision of the Women's Prize Trust on eligibility and compliance with the conditions of entry at all stages of the Prize is final, and no correspondence will be entered into on the subject.

3 CONDITIONS OF PRIZE

Any eligible book that is entered for the Prize shall not qualify unless its publisher agrees:

- 3.1 that the author will be available for and cooperate with publicity and promotional requests throughout the prize process, particularly around key announcements. If there is any issue around this matter, it is the responsibility of the publisher to notify and discuss this with the Women's Prize Trust immediately. The winner in particular is required to undertake interviews immediately after the announcement and in the following days.
- 3.2 to collaborate with the Women's Prize Trust to publicise the title and facilitate recorded interviews/readings with the author to be used by the Women's Prize Trust, media and partners.
- 3.3 to obtain permission from the copyright holder and agree to broadcast, record and/or make available a downloadable audio and/or audio visual and/or text file extract, to be used for publicity or promotional purposes on the website, podcast, any other partner websites or platforms, and/or the Women's Prize Trust's merchandise. The publisher agrees to inform the Women's Prize Trust of the copyright credit to be used, and to obtain the required permission to supply the epub, cover and metadata for sale on the website, podcast and any other partner websites or platforms.
- 3.4 to ensure that all formats of the book refer to the longlisting/shortlisting/win as appropriate on the front or back cover, using the relevant Prize branding, as shared and approved by the Women's Prize Trust; digital files of branded covers must be supplied to the Women's Prize Trust. The submitting publisher must bring this requirement to the attention of the literary agent and to its global counterpart(s) elsewhere.
- 3.5 to connect the Women's Prize Trust team with its international counterparts, particularly English-language publishers, to support at each subsequent stage of the Prize announcement and promotion relevant to your title.

AT LONGLIST STAGE

- 3.6 to contribute £1,250 (plus VAT) for promotional activity. This payment is to be made promptly within seven days by BACS on receipt of an invoice. This stipulation is subject to appeal by a publisher for whom such expenditure would prove prohibitive and may be adjusted or waived at the discretion of the Women's Prize Trust.
- 3.7 to provide 30 copies for promotional and administrative purposes, and agree to sell further copies to the Women's Prize Trust at a minimum of 70% discount for promotional use or outreach activities in perpetuity.
- 3.8 to provide within two weeks of the longlist announcement an electronic text and audio version to the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) (or, if requested by the Women's Prize Trust, to any other approved body), for the purposes of producing and distributing on a not-for-profit basis accessible copies to visually impaired persons. It is the publisher's responsibility to inform rights owners that accessible copies are being produced and distributed.



- 3.9 to ensure that their title is available as physical and digital editions, and use their best endeavours to produce an audio edition for national distribution if it is not already available.
- 3.10 to use best endeavours to ensure authors participate in public events (live and virtual) as requested. Publishers will be responsible for arranging any travel and accommodation for their authors, and covering costs and relevant additional expenses.



AT SHORTLIST STAGE

- 3.11 to contribute £6,000 (plus VAT) for promotional activity. This payment is to be made promptly within seven days by BACS on receipt of an invoice. This timeline for payment is subject to appeal by a publisher for whom such expenditure in one payment would prove prohibitive and may be adjusted at the discretion of the Women's Prize Trust.
- 3.12 to provide a further 100 copies for promotional and administrative purposes.
- 3.13 to ensure that their title is available as paperback and audio editions within an agreed timetable, if it is not already available.
- 3.14 to ensure authors attend and participate in public events (live and virtual) as requested, and the Women's Prize Trust summer party in London where the winner is announced. Publishers will be responsible for arranging any travel and accommodation for their authors, and covering costs and relevant additional expenses.



AT WINNER STAGE

- 3.15 to contribute £6,000 (plus VAT) for promotional activity. This payment is to be made promptly within seven days by BACS on receipt of an invoice. This timeline for payment is subject to appeal by a publisher for whom such expenditure in one payment would prove prohibitive and may be adjusted at the discretion of the Women's Prize Trust.
- 3.16 to provide a further 50 copies for promotional and administrative purposes.
- 3.17 to ensure the author's availability and understanding of publicity commitments following the announcement, and work with the Trust in promoting the Prize.

4 HOW TO ENTER

- 4.1 Titles will be accepted for submission for the 2027 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction from Tuesday 1 September 2026.
- 4.2 Titles should be submitted by publishers. Submissions made by authors will not be accepted.
- 4.3 Imprints with a list of 15 or more non-fiction titles per year between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027 may submit as general submissions up to **two** full-length titles with first publication dates between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027. Books that make up the threshold of 15 must be titles published for the first time in the UK in the eligibility window (ie. hardbacks or paperback originals and not second-edition paperbacks).
- 4.4 Imprints with a list of 14 or fewer non-fiction titles per year between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027 may submit as a general submission **one** full-length title with first publication dates between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027.



AUTHORS ELIGIBLE FOR A 'FREE PASS'

Authors who have previously been shortlisted for or won the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction.

See the list on page 13.

FREE PASSES

- 4.5 Publishers may enter as 'free passes' in addition to the allocation of **one/two non-fiction titles per imprint** any titles with first publication dates between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027 **by authors who have previously been shortlisted for or won the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction.**
- 4.6 For the avoidance of doubt, books by authors who have previously won or been shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction (in all iterations), Orange Award for New Writers, Discoveries or any other project of the Women's Prize Trust are not eligible for this free pass.

CALL-IN TITLES

- 4.7 Imprints may submit **one** additional title as a suggested 'call-in'. Publishers suggesting a 'call-in' title must include a pitch for the submission of not more than 250 words in the **online entry form**. This should be a bespoke pitch, not general blurb or marketing copy.
- 4.8 Call-in titles are not compulsory and how many, if any, the judges wish to call in, is at their discretion. Coercion of judges will not be tolerated. Publishers will be contacted if judges wish to call in any titles, and print / digital books will be requested at that stage; please **do not send books for suggested call-in titles.**



REMINDER!

Please **do not send** any digital files or physical copies of suggested call-in titles unless requested.

GENERAL SUBMISSIONS

The following steps (4.9, 4.10 and 4.11) should be taken for titles being submitted:

DEADLINE

SEPTEMBER

18

4.9 By 5pm BST Friday 18 September 2026

➤ Publishers should complete the **online entry form** for all titles they are submitting (general submissions and free passes) and for their suggested call-ins.

FOR TITLES PUBLISHED BETWEEN 1 APRIL 2026 AND 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

➤ Send a PDF and ePub file to:
nonfiction@womensprize.com

Please name the file as the **book title + author name**.

➤ Send **six finished copies** for each submitted title published between 1 April 2026 and 30 September 2026, to:

Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2027
Big Yellow Hanger Lane
Quill Street, Alperton
London, W5 1DN

4.10 By 5pm GMT Friday 30 October 2026

FOR TITLES PUBLISHED BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2026 AND 30 NOVEMBER 2026

➤ Send a PDF and ePub file where available to:
nonfiction@womensprize.com

Please name the file as the **book title + author name**.

➤ Send **six finished copies** for each submitted title published between 1 October 2026 and 30 November 2026, to:

Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2027
Big Yellow Hanger Lane
Quill Street, Alperton
London, W5 1DN

DEADLINE

OCTOBER

30

DEADLINE

DECEMBER

4

4.11 By 5pm GMT Friday 4 December 2026

FOR TITLES PUBLISHED BETWEEN 1 DECEMBER 2026 AND 31 MARCH 2027

➤ Send a PDF and ePub file where available to:
nonfiction@womensprize.com

Please name the file as the **book title + author name**.

➤ Send **six finished copies or three proofs*** for each submitted title published between 1 December 2026 and 31 March 2027, to:

Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2027

Big Yellow Hanger Lane
Quill Street, Alperton
London, W5 1DN

**If a publisher is sending proof copies in the first instance, they should ensure they are the latest version available, bound and accompanied by a rough cover. Publishers should send finished copies to the above address as soon as they become available before the applicable deadline.*

DEADLINE

If you know finished copies will not be available in time for this final deadline, please inform us as soon as possible at:
nonfiction@womensprize.com

We will request a final text and two dummy copies produced with all final finishes featuring the final jacket and spine, for use in content capture in lieu of a finished copy as required.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

- 4.12 Each publisher agrees to provide access to an audio file for judging purposes upon request.
- 4.13 The judges may request to call in additional titles not submitted by publishers, with publication dates between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2027. If the publishers agrees that the works are to be considered, the publishers will be asked to complete the **online entry form**, submit six finished copies or three proofs of the book and a PDF and ePub file as soon as possible, and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of entry to the Prize.
- 4.14 The Women's Prize Trust will not acknowledge receipt of submissions and does not accept any responsibility for late, lost or damaged entries. Proof of sending is not proof of receipt.
- 4.15 Successful submissions made via the **online entry form** will result in an automated acknowledgement message on-screen upon completion; entrants will not receive a message to the email address provided.
- 4.16 No book entered by publishers or called in by the judges will be returned to publishers.

5 ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 5.1 All entries for the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction are strictly confidential and may not be used to publicise an author in the future, unless they have been longlisted, shortlisted or won.
- 5.2 All data and personal information shared with the Women's Prize Trust shall be handled in the strictest confidence and in accordance with the Women's Prize Trust's **privacy policy**.
- 5.3 In entering works to the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, the publisher agrees to allow the Women's Prize Trust to raise funds from any unused stock, in order to support its charitable mission, or donate them.
- 5.4 Any copies of books sent without request or without an official submission must be collected at the publishers' expense and arrangement, or the Women's Prize Trust reserves the right to donate them or sell them as per clause 5.3.
- 5.5 The publisher acknowledges and agrees that to the extent permitted by law, the Women's Prize Trust and any other person(s) in connection with the Prize will not be liable for any loss or damage (whether such damage or losses were foreseen, foreseeable, known or otherwise) including financially and/or to reputation and/or disappointment, suffered by any entrant, or publisher or agent on behalf of an author, entering the Prize or as a result of accepting any Prize.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 For any eligibility queries for the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, please email: **nonfiction@womensprize.com**

Free pass eligibility (authors)

YEAR	TITLE	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER
Shortlist 2026	★ The Finest Hotel in Kabul	Lyse Doucet	Hutchinson Heinemann
	Art Cure	Daisy Fancourt	Cornerstone Press
	Artists, Siblings, Visionaries	Judith Mackrell	Picador
	Hotel Exile	Jane Rogoyska	Allen Lane
	Mother Mary Comes to Me	Arundhati Roy	Hamish Hamilton
	Nation of Strangers	Ece Temelkuran	Canongate
Shortlist 2025	A Thousand Threads	Neneh Cherry	Vintage
	★ The Story of a Heart	Rachel Clarke	Abacus
	Raising Hare	Chloe Dalton	Canongate
	Agent Zo	Clare Mulley	Nicolson
	What the Wild Sea Can Be	Helen Scales	Atlantic
	Private Revolutions	Yuan Yang	Bloomsbury
Shortlist 2024	Thunderclap	Laura Cumming	Chatto & Windus
	★ Doppelganger	Naomi Klein	Allen Lane
	A Flat Place	Noreen Masud	Hamish Hamilton
	All That She Carried	Tiya Miles	Profile
	Code Dependent	Madhumita Murgia	Picador
	How to Say Babylon	Safiya Sinclair	4th Estate
Winner 2026	The Finest Hotel in Kabul	Lyse Doucet	Hutchinson Heinemann
Winner 2025	The Story of a Heart	Rachel Clarke	Abacus
Winner 2024	Doppelganger	Naomi Klein	Allen Lane