

STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

3 August 2022

Queensland Literary Awards finalists announced

Gripping, fierce and eloquent stories have earned places on the 2022 Queensland Literary Awards shortlists announced today.

A total of \$238,500 in prize money will be awarded across 12 categories that include fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and published and unpublished work.

State Library of Queensland proudly manages the awards in collaboration with sponsors, industry partners and the writing community.

Judges said the finalists for the Queensland Premier's Award for a Work of State Significance "showcased diverse voices and stories, across a range of genres, broadening our sense of what it is to be a Queenslanders".

The winners' announcement will be livestreamed on State Library's website and Facebook Live from 7pm Thursday 8 September.

Public voting for *The Courier-Mail* People's Choice Queensland Book of the Year Award is open and closes at 5pm, Monday 15 August. Voters have the chance to win a \$100 Library Shop voucher.

Quotes from the Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk

"The annual Queensland Literary Awards are an important part of our state's cultural life, recognising our nation's significant writers.

"Each year, the Queensland Premier's Award for a Work of State Significance, and the Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Awards, continue to create a legacy of important stories and new Queensland voices.

"I congratulate the authors who have been shortlisted this year for their contribution to Australian literature."

Quotes from the Arts Minister Leeanne Enoch

"I applaud the finalists for the 2022 awards.

"The Queensland Government's ongoing investment in the Literary Awards has helped to recognise and showcase Queensland stories, create career pathways for writers and raise the profile of new and established creative talent.

"The Queensland Literary Awards support the priorities of Creative Together, the Queensland Government's ten-year roadmap for arts, culture and creativity by sharing our stories and celebrating our storytellers."



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Interviews are available upon request.

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald AM:

“Congratulations to all this year's finalists.

“It is wonderful to see such an exciting diversity of voices on the shortlist.

“These talented writers and illustrators tell the story of this unique state in creative and uncompromising ways.

“The rise of First Nations writers is particularly important as it helps to elevate culturally informed perspectives for all Australians.

“A special thank you to our partners and sponsors – the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, The University of Queensland, Griffith University, Copyright Agency Cultural Fund, University of Southern Queensland, *The Courier-Mail*, Jenny Summerson, and Susan Hocking and Ian Mackie and their family, through the Hocking Mackie Trust at the APS Foundation.”

2022 Queensland Literary Awards shortlists

Queensland Premier's Award for a Work of State Significance

- *Wounded Country: The Murray-Darling Basin – a contested history* (NewSouth) by Quentin Beresford
- *Muddy People: A Memoir* (Black Inc. Books) by Sara El Sayed
- *The Burnished Sun* (University of Queensland Press) by Mirandi Riwoe
- *Operation Jungle* (University of Queensland Press) by John Shobbrook
- *Another Day in the Colony* (University of Queensland Press) by Chelsea Watego

Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Award

- Rebecca Cheers
- Marilena Hewitt
- Miranda Hine
- Sean West

The University of Queensland Fiction Book Award

- *The Other Half of You* (Hachette Australia) by Michael Mohammed Ahmad
- *Cold Enough for Snow* (Giramondo Publishing) by Jessica Au
- *The Furies* (Hachette Australia) by Mandy Beaumont
- *The Keepers* (University of Queensland Press) by Al Campbell
- *Australiana* (Ultimo Press) by Yumna Kassab

The University of Queensland Non-Fiction Book Award

- *Lies, Damned Lies* (Ultimo Press) by Claire G. Coleman
- *Muddy People: A Memoir* (Black Inc. Books) by Sara El Sayed
- *The Mother Wound* (Pan Macmillan) by Amani Haydar



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- *The Three Burials of Lotty Kneen: Travels with My Grandmother's Ashes* (Text Publishing) by Krissy Kneen
- *Another Day in the Colony* (University of Queensland Press) by Chelsea Watego

Children's Book Award

- *My Brother Ben* (University of Queensland Press) by Peter Carnavas
- *A Glasshouse of Stars* (Penguin Random House Australia) by Shirley Marr
- *Kunyi* (Magabala Books) written and illustrated by Kunyi June Anne McInerney
- *The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name* (Hardie Grant Children's Publishing) by Sandhya Parappukkaran and illustrated by Michelle Pereira
- *The First Scientists: Deadly Inventions and Innovations from Australia's First Peoples* (Hardie Grant Explore) by Corey Tutt and illustrated by Blak Douglas

Griffith University Young Adult Book Award

- *Girls in Boys' Cars* (Pan Macmillan) by Felicity Castagna
- *Katipo Joe: Wolf's Lair* (Scholastic) by Brian Falkner
- *Morrison and Mr Moore* (In Case of Emergency Press) by Michael Hyde
- *Social Queue* (Text Publishing) by Kay Kerr
- *Sugar* (Text Publishing) by Carly Nugent

University of Southern Queensland Steele Rudd Award for a Short Story Collection

- *Dark as Last Night* (University of Queensland Press) by Tony Birch
- *The Kindness of Birds* (Spinifex Press) by Merlinda Bobis
- *The Burnished Sun* (University of Queensland Press) by Mirandi Riwoe
- *If You're Happy* (University of Queensland Press) by Fiona Robertson
- *Lake Malibu and Other Stories* (Spineless Wonders) by Su-May Tan

Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection

- *TAKE CARE* (Giramondo Publishing) by Eunice Andrada
- *Stasis Shuffle* (Hunter Publishers) by Pam Brown
- *accelerations & inertias* (Vagabond Press) by Dan Disney
- *At the Altar of Touch* (University of Queensland Press) by Gavin Yuan Gao
- *Bees Do Bother: An Antagonist's Carepack* (Vagabond Press) by Ann Vickery

David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer

- Edoardo Crismani for 'Finding Billy Brown'
- Julie-Ann 'Garrimaa' Moore for 'Wawun, Judulu and The Big Storm'
- Mykaela Saunders for 'Always Will Be – stories of Goori sovereignty, from the future(s) of the Tweed'
- Rick Slager for untitled manuscript
- Aunty Joan Tranter for 'Unplanned Journey: A personal account of one Indigenous woman's life'

Glendower Award for an Emerging Queensland Writer

- A E Macleod for 'Do you like the artist Georgia O'Keeffe?'
- John Richards for 'The Interventions'
- Emily Winter for 'Sunshowers'
- Yen-Rong Wong for 'Things Left Unsaid'

The Courier-Mail People's Choice Queensland Book of the Year Award

- *Whole Notes: Life Lessons Through Music* (ABC Books) by Ed Ayres
- *The Keepers* (University of Queensland Press) by Al Campbell
- *Muddy People: A Memoir* (Black Inc. Books) by Sara El Sayed
- *Bila Yarrudhanggalangdhuray* (Simon & Schuster Australia) by Anita Heiss
- *The Three Burials of Lotty Kneen: Travels with My Grandmother's Ashes* (Text Publishing) by Krissy Kneen
- *Red Heaven* (Text Publishing) by Nicolas Rothwell
- *Crime Writer* (Ruby Books) by Dime Sheppard
- *Another Day in the Colony* (University of Queensland Press) by Chelsea Watego

Queensland Writers Fellowships

There is no shortlist for this category.

For more information: [Queensland Literary Awards](#)

Images available on request.