



The Royal Society of Literature

The V.S. Pritchett Short Story Prize 2020

THE TWENTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE ANNUAL
SHORT STORY PRIZE

The short story, my
father once wrote, is
'exquisitely difficult'. For
the author, that is. All
the same, we hope that
many, many
people will enter
this competition
in his memory.

Oliver Pritchett



In association with

Prospect

Deadline

The closing date for entries is **Friday 3 July at midnight**. Entries received after this time will not be considered.

Eligibility

- Entrants must be resident in the UK, Republic of Ireland or Commonwealth and likely to be available for a prize-giving event in Autumn 2020
- Stories entered for the competition **must not have been published previously**, or broadcast in any other medium, including online
- Multiple entries to this competition are permitted but must be submitted and paid for individually
- Entrants must be over 18 at the time of submission.

The V.S. Pritchett Short Story Prize is administered by the Royal Society of Literature in association with *Prospect* magazine and is supported by ALCS. For more details, see our website.

Entry Instructions

Stories must:

- be written in English
- be between **2,000 and 4,000 words**
- be submitted as **Microsoft Word or PDF** documents with the author name (surname, first name) and short story title in the file name e.g. Wilde, Oscar – The Happy Prince
- use **Arial, 12pt, black-coloured** font and use **double-line spacing**
- have **page numbers** at the bottom right-hand side of each page
- have the title of the story and word count at the top of the first page.

Stories must not:

- include the name of the entrant, contact details or any identifying mark anywhere in the document
- include photos or illustrations.

The Royal Society of Literature cannot undertake to make corrections or additions to submissions.

Submission of an entry implies acceptance of these conditions and entry fees are non-refundable. The shortlist will be contacted in Autumn. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Due to the volume of submissions received, we are not able to provide individual feedback.

To submit your entry by post, please fill out the form on page 3. Please note that typescripts will not be returned, so entrants are advised to keep copies. No responsibility can be taken for any that are damaged or lost in the post. Each entry should be accompanied by a fee of £7.50, which must be paid in sterling, by cheques drawn on a UK bank or by postal order made payable to The Royal Society of Literature.

Postal entries will be acknowledged by email if one is provided, otherwise you should include a stamped, addressed envelope marked ACKNOWLEDGEMENT if you require this and entrants wishing to know the result of the competition should enclose a stamped, addressed envelope marked RESULT.

Please note that any entries that fail to follow the guidelines will not be accepted and the fee will not be refunded. No correspondence will be entered into regarding ineligible submissions.

Entry Form



The Royal Society
of Literature

Postal entries* should be sent to:
VSP, Royal Society of Literature
Somerset House
Strand
London
WC2R 1LA

Entries may be made online at:
theroyalsocietyofliterature.submittable.com/submit

Please write in block capitals:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

EMAIL

TITLE OF STORY

WORD COUNT

WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE V. S. PRITCHETT PRIZE?

Tick here to receive the RSL monthly e-newsletter, which includes information about our work, literary news and how you can get involved.

I enclose £7.50 for my competition entry. I declare the story to be my own work, not published or broadcast in any medium.

SIGNED

Please ensure that you apply the correct postage as entries insufficiently stamped will **not be accepted.*

