



The Royal Society of Literature

The V.S. Pritchett Short Story Prize 2018

THE NINETEENTH 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

The judges for 2018 are Tibor Fischer, Irenosen Okojie and Leone Ross.

Deadline

The closing date for entries is **Friday 29 June 2018 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 prizegiving event in Autumn 2018.
- Stories entered for the competition **must not have been published previously**, or broadcast in any other medium.
- 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 sponsored by Jennie Bland, as well as the 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 font and be double-spaced
- 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, their address 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 opposite. 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 only be acknowledged if a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed, marked ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, and entrants wishing to know the result of the competition should enclose a stamped, addressed envelope marked RESULT.

Please note that any entries that do not meet the requirements outlined above will not be accepted and the fee will not be refunded. No correspondence will be entered into regarding incorrect submissions.



The Royal Society of Literature

Entries should be sent to:
VSP, The Royal Society of Literature
Somerset House, Strand
London, WC2R 1LA

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

Entry Form

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



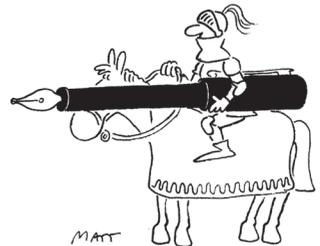
The Royal Society of Literature

The Royal Society of Literature is delighted to announce the nineteenth V.S. Pritchett Short Story Prize. This prize, for the best **unpublished short story** of the year, was founded by the RSL to commemorate the centenary of an author widely regarded as the finest English short story writer of the 20th Century. It also preserves a tradition encompassing Pritchett's warmth of feeling and mastery of narrative.

There is a prize of £1,000, and the winning entry will be published in *Prospect* online and in *RSL Review*, the Society's annual magazine.

V.S. Pritchett, whom the *New Yorker* called 'our language's presiding man of letters', is an inspirational figure to short story writers. His own output was prolific – throughout his long life he wrote extensively across a range of literary forms – and it is for his subtle, lucid, sensitive short stories that he is best remembered and admired.

The Royal Society of Literature
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Membership of the Royal Society of Literature is open to all.
Please visit our website or get in touch for more details.

We are grateful to Jennie Bland for sponsoring the prize, to ALCS for making the prize-giving event possible and to *Prospect* magazine for publishing the winning entry online.

Cover image: V.S. Pritchett by David Levine
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go to www.davidlevineart.com

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PROTECTING
AND PROMOTING
CREATIVE
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