

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This competition is promoted by the Borough Press, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers (“HarperCollins”), The News Building, 1 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9GF
2. This promotion is open to UK residents over the age of 18 without a literary agent except employees of HarperCollins (or their parent, subsidiaries or any affiliated companies) and their immediate families, who are not allowed to enter the competition.
3. Entrants must be from a lower socio-economic background as defined by the [Civil Service Diversity and Inclusion guidance](#), and/or of Black, Asian or minority ethnic background, and will need to provide this information in their submission.
4. The winner will receive a £10,000 publishing contract with The Borough Press
5. The winner will have the opportunity to find a literary agent, with the guidance of HarperCollins’ Talent and Audience Development Manager
6. All submissions must be sent by email to the designated Open Submission email address: boroughsubmissions@harpercollins.co.uk
7. Submissions must be sent between the hours of 00:01 1st December 2020 and 23:59 31st March 2021. No entries received after this date will be accepted. No purchase necessary.
8. Submissions that have been sent by post or means other than email to the correct email address will not be accepted.
9. Each submission should contain:
 - a) The first three chapters or fifty pages, in either case no more than 10,000 words, of a novel with sequential page numbering included, with the first page being the title page;
 - b) Synopsis of whole book*, including the complete plot and the story’s end (maximum 500 words); a one paragraph summary of the book; a short list of the main characters; and
 - c) Author biography, to include any blogs and/or social media information, any creative writing courses attended, short stories published, prizes won, literary or media mentors and contacts, etc. (maximum 1 page). Entrants should also include their ethnicity and the occupation of the highest earner in their household when they were age 14.
10. The submission must be in Word format throughout all documents; all documents must be submitted at the same time, attached to a single email (the attachments each to be clearly individually marked as ‘manuscript’, ‘synopsis’, and ‘author biography’); the chapters of the manuscript are to be in one document, NOT sent as separate documents. In addition, each of the three documents should be marked IN THE FILE NAME with the author’s name and the title of the novel and this information should also be marked on every page of each document.
11. In the ‘Subject’ area at the top of an entrant’s submission email, entrants should put the title and their (pen) name.
12. In the body of the email, authors must provide their full name, address, and phone number.

13. Submissions that do not meet requirements of these Terms and Conditions shall not be read.
14. Any submission containing incorrect, false or unreadable information will be rejected.
15. Any submission made on behalf of or for another person, or multiple submissions, will not be read.
16. Novels submitted must be:
 - a. within the literary or commercial-literary genre, which is to say that novels in other genres will not be considered, thereby excluding – among other genres – children’s and Young Adult fiction, genre fiction (straight science fiction, fantasy, horror or crime) and romantic fiction. Non-fiction will also not be considered.
 - b. in prose.
 - c. written in English.
 - d. not have been previously published/self-published or posted on publishing websites, forums or access platforms such as (but not limited to) Wattpad, Smashwords, Lulu, FanFiction, Completely Novel.
 - e. not have had an ISBN.
17. No correspondence between The Borough Press, HarperCollins or the hopeful authors can be entered into, unless at The Borough Press’s request, and we will not respond to unsolicited communications.
18. In entering this competition you agree that, if you win, in order to receive your prize you will need to enter into (i) a contract with HarperCollins on its standard author agreement terms. If you comply with the terms of your contract the royalty of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) for World rights is payable. In entering, the winner accepts that they will be contractually obliged to deliver a full version of the novel to HarperCollins no later than 31st December 2021.
19. The winner of the open submissions period will be notified by 31st May 2021, and an announcement will be made after this time.
20. As part of the contract the winning author must:
 - a. undertake editorial work on their novel
 - b. undertake publicity and promotional responsibilities
21. There is no obligation on The Borough Press to publish any of the entrants to the Open Submission, in print or in eBook, or to offer any sort of editorial advice.
22. The Borough Press’s decision is final; unsuccessful entrants will be notified but no feedback will be provided on unsuccessful entries.
23. You will retain all copyright in your submission and by submitting your novel you grant HarperCollins a licence to copy your submission and share it with its affiliates solely for the purpose of reviewing it.
24. Neither HarperCollins nor The Borough Press will be able to return any submissions, so make sure you have a copy stored safely before you submit.
25. Any personal information you give us will be used solely for reviewing your submission and will not be passed on to any other parties without your agreement. HarperCollins’ privacy policy can be found at: <http://www.harpercollins.co.uk/legal/Pages/privacy-policy.aspx>.

26. HarperCollins will not be responsible unless required by law, for any loss, changes, costs or expenses, which may arise in connection with this open submission period and HarperCollins can cancel or alter the open submissions period at any stage.
27. HarperCollins' decision as to who has won the competition shall be final, and no further correspondence shall be entered into.
28. To obtain the name of the competition winner after the closing date, please write to boroughsubmissions@harpercollins.co.uk, HarperCollins Publishers, The News Building, 1 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9GF.
29. The entry instructions are part of the Terms and Conditions for this competition.
30. By entering the competition you are agreeing to accept these Terms and Conditions. Any breach of these Terms and Conditions by you will mean that your entry will not be valid, and you will not be allowed to enter this competition.
31. By entering this competition, you are agreeing that if you win your name and image may be used for the purpose of announcing the winner in any related publicity with HarperCollins, without additional payment or permission. You can withdraw your consent to this at any time.
32. All entrants are expected to act fairly and in the good spirit of the competition. HarperCollins reserves the right to investigate any irregularities and disqualify entrants at its absolute discretion.
33. Any personal information you give us will be used solely for this competition and will not be passed on to any other parties without your agreement. HarperCollins' privacy policy can be found at:
<http://www.harpercollins.co.uk/legal/Pages/privacy-policy.aspx>
34. Under no circumstances will HarperCollins be responsible for any loss, damages, costs or expenses arising from or in any way connected with any errors, defects, interruptions, or delays in the promotion of the competition.
35. Any dispute relating to the competition shall be governed by the laws of England and Wales and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

*For the avoidance of doubt, 'the synopsis of the whole book' should give an outline of the books themes and full plot, including spoilers. It is important to show the full story arc and how the characters develop over the course of the book.