

Dear Writers

Thank you for your patience while waiting for the results of the novel competition. We had a great response and Stephen May has agonised over the final decision, finding it very hard to choose between five strong entries at the end.

Congratulations to all those who made it into the final 20 novels:

1	The Tragedy of God's Will	Michael Apichella
2	Journey into the Interior	Sylvia Moody
3	One Hundredth	Ian Loftus
4	A Time for Peace	Marg Roberts
5	Malus	Jean Levy
6	The Power of Goodbye	Michelle Betteridge
7	Making Good	Marg Roberts
8	The Disobedient Wife	Annika Milisic-Stanley
9	Masque	Bethany Pope
10	Early Morning Fog	Rob Jefferson Brown
11	The Curse of Service	Anita Davie
12	Dark Mermaids	Anne Marie Lauppe-Dunbar
13	Again	Val Jones
14	Filthy Luca	Andrew Stevens
15	Don't Forget Me When I Go	Tony Flynn
16	Dead Dogs and Angels	Mickela Sonola
17	The Uninvited	Katie Low
18	Dragon Daughter	Liz Flannagan
19	The Maia Files	Liz Flannagan
20	From the Classroom in the Desert	Omar Sabbagh

Getting these down to the last five was very difficult, but it came down to the following short-list:

One Hundredth	Ian Loftus
A Time for Peace	Marg Roberts
The Disobedient Wife	Annika Milisic-Stanley
Early Morning Fog	Rob Jefferson Brown
The Curse of Service	Anita Davie

Stephen read and re-read and read them again and it was close run. He felt that with good editing all five would make good novels, but in the end the vote went to The Disobedient Wife by Annika Milisic-Stanley. Stephen says of this novel:

"I liked the authenticity of the setting and the conflicts and misunderstandings between the characters. I learned about Tajikistan and the weariness of both the NGO workers and the local population was well captured."

Huge congratulations to Annika and we look forward to working with her to develop the novel for publication in November 2015. With such a strong field we are also taking Marg Roberts's novel, A Time for Peace, for our 2016 list so congratulations to Marg also.

In the meantime thank you to everyone who entered and we hope to see more of your work in future.