



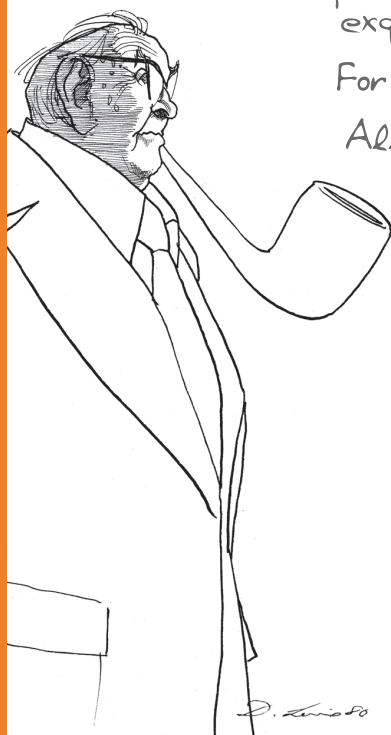
# The Royal Society of Literature

## The V.S. Pritchett Memorial Prize 2014

THE SIXTEENTH 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 Royal Society of Literature is delighted to announce the sixteenth V.S. Pritchett Memorial Prize. This prize for the best **unpublished short story** of the year was founded by the RSL at the beginning of the new millennium to commemorate the centenary of an author widely regarded as the finest English short-story writer of the 20th century, and to preserve 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 the *RSL Review*. In addition to this, there will be an opportunity to appear at an RSL event with established short story writers in autumn 2014.

The judges this year are Margaret Drabble, Tibor Fischer and Helen Oyeyemi.

The closing date for entries is 16 June 2014.

Entrants must be citizens of the UK, the Republic of Ireland and Commonwealth countries or have been resident in one of the aforementioned countries for the past three years. Stories entered for the competition must not have been published previously, or broadcast in any other medium. Any story submitted should be between 2,000 and 4,000 words in length. Entries should be in English, typed on one side only of A4 paper and double-spaced. Entrants should not put their name, address or any identifying mark, other than the title of the work, on their transcripts. The title should appear on each page. Pages should be numbered and fastened securely with a paper clip, not stapled.

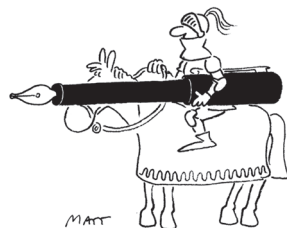
There is no restriction on submitting the same entry to other prizes. Multiple entries are permitted, but a separate entry form must be filled in and attached to each story. The entry form may be photocopied.

Each entry should be accompanied by a fee of £5 towards administrative costs. Fees must be paid in sterling, by cheques drawn on a UK bank or by postal order. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to The Royal Society of

Literature and should bear the sender's name and address on the reverse. Failure to comply with the entry requirements will result in disqualification. Submission of an entry will imply acceptance of the conditions. Entry fees are non-returnable.

Typescripts will not be returned so entrants are advised to keep copies. The Royal Society of Literature cannot undertake to make corrections or additions to typescripts submitted and, while great care will be taken of those submitted, no responsibility can be taken for any that are damaged or lost while in the post.

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. The winner will be announced in the autumn at an RSL short story event in Somerset House.





# 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](http://theroyalsocietyofliterature.submittable.com/submit)

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## Entry Form

Please write in block capitals:

NAME

---

ADDRESS

---

---

TELEPHONE NUMBER

---

EMAIL

---

TITLE OF STORY

---

WORD COUNT

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

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IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OR FELLOW OF THE RSL PLEASE TICK HERE

☐

Please tick the box to receive the monthly RSL e-newsletter  
with updates of forthcoming events.

☐

I enclose £5 for my competition entry. I declare it to be my own work,  
not published or broadcast in any medium.

SIGNED

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V.S. Pritchett (VSP), whom the *New Yorker* called 'our language's presiding man of letters', is an inspirational figure to aspirant short story writers. His own output was prolific – throughout his long life he wrote in every literary form save poetry – and it is for his subtle, lucid, sensitive short stories that he is best remembered and admired.

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Membership of the Royal Society of Literature is open to all.  
For details please contact us at [info@rslit.org](mailto:info@rslit.org)

Cover image: V.S. Pritchett by David Levine © D.Levine Ink  
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We are grateful to Christopher and 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.