

28 October 2014

What's your Queensland Book of the Year?

Voting is now open for *The Courier-Mail* People's Choice Queensland Book of the Year as part of the 2014 Queensland Literary Awards program.

State Librarian Janette Wright today announced the shortlist for the competition, which features popular local authors Frances Whiting, Matthew Condon and T. M. Clark, and opened voting to the public to decide who will take out the \$5,000 prize.

"The People's Choice award is a key category in the Queensland Literary Awards, celebrating great writing by local authors and giving readers the power to decide the winner," said Ms Wright.

"The incredible diversity of Queensland writing talent is highlighted in the 2014 shortlist which includes romance, crime, outstanding journalistic enquiry, memoir and surprisingly, even instructions on how to do a liver transplant.

"Queenslanders are avid readers and writers, with 84% of people reading or engaging in some form of creative writing. It is wonderful to have the support of *The Courier-Mail* for this award where readers become the judging panel," she said.

The Courier-Mail editor Christopher Dore said *The Courier-Mail* has a proud tradition of supporting literature in Queensland.

"I encourage all readers to go online and vote for their Queensland book of the year," said Mr Dore.

Catherine Titasey won the Queensland Literary Awards Emerging Queensland Author in 2012 for her manuscript which has now been nominated for the People's Choice award. This is testament to how important competitions like these are to supporting, nurturing and developing local writing talent.

Members of the public can vote for their favourite shortlisted book at the Queensland Literary Awards website <http://qldliteraryawards.org.au> until 21 November.

The winner will be announced at the Queensland Literary Awards ceremony in December.

***The Courier-Mail* People's Choice Queensland Book of the Year Award Shortlist 2014**

- *My Brother–But–One*, T. M. Clark (Harlequin Mira)
- *Walking on Trampolines*, Frances Whiting (Pan Macmillan)
- *My Island Homicide*, Catherine Titasey (UQP)
- *Atomic City*, Sally Breen (Harper Collins)
- *Jacks and Jokers*, Matthew Condon (UQP)
- *Lingering Doubts: Going Inside Brisbane's Arcade Murder*, Deb Drummond and Janice Teunis (Copyright Publishing)
- *How to do a liver transplant: Stories from my surgical life*, Kellee Slater (NewSouth Books)
- *The Power of Bones*, Keelen Mailman (Allen and Unwin)

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