

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

CANADIAN BOOK CLUB AWARDS ANNOUNCES 2025 FINALISTS

In a week of literary award announcements, Canada's largest readers' choice award releases their 2025 finalists.

CANADA – The Canadian Book Club Awards (CBCA), the country's largest readers' choice award, is pleased to announce the finalists for its 2025 awards.

This announcement arrives amid a lively and celebrated awards season across the literary world, reflecting the diversity present in Canadian publishing.

Monday's Giller prize announcement highlights the country's best fiction as chosen by a jury, whereas The Canadian Book Club Awards highlights the best titles in 13 genres, chosen by Canadian readers.

"Each year we watch the awards evolve, not only in quantity, but in depth," says Kristain Camps, Program Director for the CBCA. "The range of stories submitted this year speaks to Canada's literary scene as one that is thriving in every corner."

What to know about this year's Canadian Book Club Awards:

- 50% of the finalist titles are independently published
- 82% of the finalists are Canadian (CBCA is *open to authors worldwide, but judged exclusively by Canadian readers.*)
- Submissions are evaluated by registered Avid Readers, who select finalists in each of the 13 genre categories.
- Winners will be chosen by registered Canadian verified readers who cast their votes by January 2026

The finalists for the 2025 Canadian Book Club Awards are:

Poetry

- *Love, Light & Other Beautiful Lies: A Poetic Memoir of Spiritual Materialism* — **Sean P. Russell** (Independently Published)
- *No More Second Chances: poems to heal your heart* — **Chiara Mason** (TSPA The Self Publishing Agency Inc.)
- *My Lost Pages* — **Sneha Sabu** (White Falcon Publishing)

Non-Fiction

- *Kitchen Renovation Planning Guide* — **Charlene J Smith** (Independently Published)
- *Disability Is Human: The Vital Power of Accessibility in Everyday Life* — **Stephanie W. Cawthon** (TSPA The Self Publishing Agency Inc.)
- *Let's Talk Podcasting (Second Edition)* — **Amanda Cupido** (Independently Published)

Young Adult (YA)

- *A Thief Among Liars* — **E.A. Whyte** (Independently Published)
- *Summer at Pike Lake* — **Alyssa Delle Palme** (Evernight Teen)
- *The After* — **J. Taylor** (FriesenPress)

Thriller / Mystery

- *Every Fall* — **Angela Douglas** (Rising Action Publishing)
- *Because of His Heart* — **Stephen A. Marvin** (FriesenPress)
- *Red Herrings* — **Gail Hulnick** (The WindWord Group, LLC)

Spirituality / Wellness

- *Reclaim Your Mind* — **Jay Vidyarthi** (Still Ape Press)
- *Five Minute Psychotherapy Techniques* — **Jenny H. Hsueh** (FriesenPress)
- *The Everyday Pain Guide* — **Ya-Ling J. Liou, D.C.** (Return to Health Press)

Sci-Fi / Fantasy

- *The Lightning Child: The Wolves of Orkerion* — **Quinn Lamothe** (FriesenPress)
- *Shadow of the Yew Tree* — **Kate Gateley** (Fogberry Press)
- *Chaos Calling* — **E.M. Williams** (Circle Star Publishing)

Romance

- *Two Weeks in Toronto* — **Amelia Doyle** (BRINKLEY Verlag)
- *A Place for Us* — **Patricia Grayhall** (She Writes Press)
- *The Girl with Autumn Eyes* — **R.F. Vincent** (FriesenPress)

Non-Fiction / Memoir

- *Halfway Home* — **Christina Myers** (House of Anansi Press)
- *Left* — **Bonnie Thompson** (Bee Writes Publishing)
- *Twice the Family* — **Julie Ryan McGue** (She Writes Press)

Fiction

- *The Fort* — **Christy K. Lee** (Rising Action Publishing)
- *Autumn* — **Marc MacDonald** (FriesenPress)
- *Monday Rent Boy* — **Susan Doherty** (Random House Canada)

Early Readers

- *Let's Talk Podcasting for Kids* — **Amanda Cupido** (Independently Published)
- *Armando and the Amazing Animals* — **Diana Schaffter** (Sea Otter Press)
- *The Underground Railroad Twins* — **Lisa Tasca Oatway** (Tellwell Talent)

Children's

- *I've Never Sawn That Before!* — **Kristin Blakely** (AVID Language)
- *The Who That I Am* — **Cynthia Carla** (FriesenPress)
- *Bruce and the Trouble with Antlers* — **Gina Frisby** (FriesenPress)

Business / Self-Help

- *Startup Different* — **David Sinkinson** (Page Two Press)
- *The Courage Code* — **Leisse Wilcox** (fEMPOWER Publications Inc.)
- *Untying the Knot* — **Kelly LaVallie** (Page Two Press)

Anthology / Short Story

- *The Broken Chronicles Part 1: Soldiers* — **W.H. Bruce** (Independently Published)
- *Beyond Blue* — **Christina Myers & Oga Nwobosi** (Caitlin Press)
- *CANE WOOD* — **Stephen Leslie Howard** (FriesenPress)

Winners will be announced in February, 2026.

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MEDIA INQUIRIES

The Canadian Book Club Awards Kristain Camps, Program Director

marketing@thecanadianbookclubawards.ca | thecanadianbookclubawards.ca