

Mykaela Saunders wins the 2020 Jolley Prize

Mykaela Saunders is the winner of the [2020 ABR Elizabeth Jolley Short Story Prize](#). She receives \$6,000 for her story '[River Story](#)'. Saunders was announced as the winner of the Jolley Prize by ABR Editor Peter Rose at a special Zoom ceremony on 13 August, which featured readings from all three shortlisted stories by the authors.



Mykaela Saunders

About Mykaela Saunders:

Mykaela Saunders is a Koori writer, teacher, and community researcher. Of Dharug and Lebanese ancestry, she's working-class and queer, and belongs to the Tweed Aboriginal community. Mykaela has worked in Aboriginal education since 2003, and her research explores trans-generational trauma and healing in her community. Mykaela began writing fiction and poetry in 2017, as part of her Doctor of Arts degree at the University of Sydney. Her work has since been published across forms and disciplines, placed in writing prizes, and attracted funding and fellowships.

The other two shortlisted authors are **C.J. Garrow** (Vic.), who was placed second and receives \$4,000 for his story '[Egg Timer](#)', and **Simone Hollander** (USA), placed third, who receives \$2,500 for her story '[Hieroglyph](#)'. All three shortlisted stories appear in the [August Fiction](#) issue.

This year the [ABR Elizabeth Jolley Short Story Prize](#) (worth a total of \$12,500) attracted almost 1,450 entries from thirty-four countries. The judges were **Gregory Day**, **Josephine Rowe** and **Ellen van Neerven**.

The judges also commended five other stories: 'Lucky Charms' by **Jennifer Down** (Vic.), 'I Believe' by **V.S. Kumar** (India), 'Wait for Me' by **Jasmin McGaughey** (QLD), 'Two Africas' by **Jean McNeil** (UK), and 'Bedford Jeune' by **Lauren Sarazen** (France).

Interviews: The Jolley Prize shortlisted authors are available for interview. Please contact Peter Rose at editor@australianbookreview.com.au or call the ABR office on (03) 9699 8822.