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#theselfiesaward / www.theselfies.co.uk

The Selfies 2019: for release Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 11am

BookBrunch is delighted to announce the shortlist for the inaugural Selfies Award 2019, sponsored by IngramSpark and run in association with the London Book Fair and Bookcollective. The 2019 award will recognise the best work of fiction self-published in 2018, not only in terms of the quality of the writing; the judges will be considering the cover design, blurb and sales and marketing campaigns too.

The Selfies have been established to recognise and reward the fantastic work being done by the many highly dedicated self-published authors working in the UK today. The sector is booming: Nielsen's Books & Consumers survey reports that self-published books accounted for 6.2% of all consumer book sales in the 12 months to October 2018, up from 5.5% in the year to October 2016. And self-published titles take an even larger share of ebook sales: 18.4% at the latest count.

The winner of The Selfies 2019 will be awarded £1,500 plus a special self-publishing package from sponsors IngramSpark for their next book. BookBrunch are also delighted to announce that pr agency Bookcollective have joined the roster of supporters, offering the winner a bespoke book cover design, created by award winning designer Aimee Coveney, and a book publicity campaign worth £1000 for their next book.

Selected from a very strong range of submissions, the shortlisted books are of exceptional quality. Jo Henry of BookBrunch said: "The judges who have drawn up this shortlist feel privileged to have read some exceptional works of self-published fiction from a very wide range of genres. The shortlist we've come up with contains works that can confidently stand against the very best fiction being published in the UK today. All eight of the shortlisted authors are women, hailing from all round the UK – with one author originally from Belgium and another from Holland – and their books range from chic lit to historical crime fiction. We're now on tenterhooks to discover who will be crowned the inaugural Selfies 2019 author of the year at the London Book Fair!"

The judging panel to choose the winner will consist of literary agents Kate Barker and Annette Crossland, Ingram's Robin Cutler and London Book Fair's Emily Laidlaw, and will be chaired by BookBrunch md Jo Henry.

The Selfies 2019 winner will be announced in the Author HQ at the London Book Fair on Tuesday, 12th March. For further details please email theselfies@bookbrunch.co.uk.

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APPENDIX

The **shortlisted titles and authors** are:



Anita Belli, Once Upon a Blue Moon

When Hollie bumps into Rory on Camden High Street on a wet day in February, it seems that her long held secret is about to be uncovered. They were lovers, years ago, until Rory took off to find his brilliant career, leaving Hollie stranded in the world of single parenthood, struggling to make ends meet.

This is Anita's second novel; she has a background as a dancer and filmmaker and is now a full-time writer and creative writing tutor, working within local communities, schools and libraries across Essex and London.



Jane Davis, Smash all the Windows

For the families of the victims of the St Botolph and Old Billingsgate disaster, the undoing of a miscarriage of justice should be a cause for rejoicing. For more than thirteen years, the search for truth has eaten up everything. Marriages, families, health, careers and finances.

Jane Davis is the author of eight novels; her first novel won the Daily Mail First Novel Award, while her seventh was Writing Magazine's Self-Published Book of the Year 2016. Jane's favourite description of fiction is 'made-up truth'.



Caroline Goldsworthy, Tangent

Predators hunt the vulnerable, those alone, at the edge of the herd. As a junior Detective Constable, Ronald Carlson pursued a serial killer who preyed on the working girls of Lytham. Now, twenty years later, is the same killer back? Or is it a copycat?

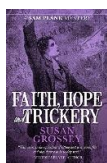
Having moved to the outskirts of Ipswich for her job in telecommunications, Caroline Goldsworthy used the events of 2006 as the inspiration for Tangent, her debut novel and the first of the DCI Ronnie Carlson series of crime thrillers.



Mel Gough, He is Mine

NYPD detective Brad Moretti's life is in tatters. Vivienne Aubert seems to have it all – a Hollywood career, supermodel looks, and a director husband - and yet a one-night-stand with rising superstar Damien Thomas makes her embark on a ruthless quest to make him hers. Damien's chance encounter with Brad sparks a prompt and rapidly growing affinity – which Viv is determined to terminate. Can Brad head off her delusional desires before she destroys his newfound happiness?

Mel Gough writes (mostly) M/M romance, usually with a twist on the hurt/comfort trope, and so far has self-published one novel and one novella.



Susan Grossey, Faith, Hope and Trickery

Rose Welford, the wife of a bootmaker, is smothered in her bed in the summer of 1828. Her husband quickly confesses to the crime, claiming that a message from beyond the grave told him to do it. At ever more popular gatherings in fields, factories and fine houses, a charismatic preacher with a history of religious offences seems to be at the heart of it all – but who, and what, can be believed when fortunes are at stake?

Susan Grossey worked in the world of anti-money laundering, advising organisations such as banks and casinos on how to avoid criminal money. Having written more than twenty books about money laundering, she decided the time had come to turn to historical financial crime.



Kathleen Jowitt, A Spoke in the Wheel

Ben Goddard is an embarrassment – as a cyclist, as an athlete, as a human being. And he knows it. Exposed by a positive drugs test, he quits professional cycling, sticks a pin in a map, and sets out to build a new life in a town where nobody knows who he is or what he's done. But when the first person he meets turns out to be a cycling fan, he finds out that it's not going to be quite as easy as that.

Kathleen Jowitt lives in Cambridge, works in London, and writes on the train. Her debut novel, 'Speak Its Name', was the first self-published book ever shortlisted for the Betty Trask Prize.



Heleen Kist, In Servitude

Grace thought her sister, Glory, led a perfect life. But when Glory dies in a car crash, Grace discovers she was laundering money for a local crime lord. What's worse, Grace finds herself forced to take over her sister's shady dealings. Convinced Glory was murdered, Grace seeks justice, but finds instead betrayal...

Heleen Kist was born in Holland, but now lives in Glasgow. Her debut novel 'In Servitude' was inspired by Heleen's expertise in small business finance mixed with her friend's courageous idea to open a vegan cafe in a city renowned for its dubious diet.



Jane Steen, Lady Helena Investigates

1881, Sussex, and a reluctant lady sleuth finds she's investigating her own family. Lady Helena Scott-De Quincy's marriage gave new purpose to a life almost destroyed by the death of her first love. Such a shame their union wasn't blessed by children . . . but she is content with her quiet country life until her husband is found dead in the river overlooked by their grand baroque mansion...

British-born Jane Steen has spent more than half her life in Belgium and the United States but has now returned to England, and is the author of House of Closed Doors series and the Scott-De Quincy Mysteries.

The **judging panel** to choose the winner will consist of:



Kate Barker is a literary agent who has worked in the publishing industry for 20 years as an editor, agent and ghostwriter. She was previously an Editorial Director for Viking, and has also worked for Bookouture, Curtis Brown and Orion.



Annette Crossland has worked in high-profile positions in some of the UK and USA's most successful publishing companies, including Faber & Faber, Transworld Publishers & Bantam Doubleday Dell USA, Simon & Schuster, and No Exit Press. She has worked with some of the top bestselling authors in the world, touring overseas with Elizabeth George, Dennis Lehane and Frances Fyfield, amongst others. She now owns a literary agency, A for Authors Agency Ltd.



Robin Cutler is a director of IngramSpark, and leads the development of that Ingram Content Group service for indie authors and publishers. During her career, she has published over 1000 books as Assistant Director at USC Press, and CEO and founder of her own trade imprint, Summerhouse Press. Robin most recently worked for Amazon/CreateSpace. She has broad knowledge of indie, academic and trade publishing and is an expert in content creation, distribution, on-demand models, and author strategies



Emily Laidlaw is an experienced member of The London Book Fair marketing team and freelance writer. She has worked on the editorial committees of Australian literary journals *Kill Your Darlings* and *Voiceworks* and her book reviews and author interviews appear regularly in trade journals including Books+Publishing.



Jo Henry is md of BookBrunch, having joined in 2018. She started in publishing at Victor Gollancz, becoming Sales Director in 1989. In 1993 she joined HEA's Publishing Division as Head of Sales & Marketing and then moved to Book Marketing Ltd. (BML) as MD in 1995. Following the acquisition of BML by Publishing News in 2007 she also became MD of the PN Group. In 2010, BML was acquired by Bowker Market Research, which was in turn acquired by Nielsen Book in September 2013. At Nielsen Book she led the consumer insight service as VP of Insight and Analytics. She is co-founder of the Book Marketing Society and a former Chair of both the Book Society and the Book Trade Benevolent Society.

