Special Issue

Eyes on the Prize: Women's Writing and Literary Awards

Message from the Guest Editor

Of the various institutions and events that nowadays shape who and what gets read, and what counts as 'literature, prize culture plays a key role. However, that culture is by no means homogeneous. Writers, readers, publishers, judges, 'experts', corporations, reviewers, and the media more generally, all routinely participate in an exercise made up of contending forces and influences. These contentions raise questions about fairness and authority in the interplay between judges' claims of aesthetic quality, the agenda of a corporate sponsor, a writer's reputation and image, and the politics of exclusion and inclusion. This Special Issue investigates the interaction between literary awards and creative practices over the last fifty years. It examines the impact of a woman's prizewinning publication on her own career, on the award itself, and on constructions of literary value. It invites papers on a particular work that considers such matters as the contexts of the prize.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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