



2026 SHORT STORY COMPETITION - Terms and Conditions

COMPETITION Theme: 'After Midnight'.
OPEN FOR ENTRIES: October 16th, 2025

The DEADLINE for receipt of both postal and electronic entries is 5pm on March 20th, 2026.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Entry forms can be downloaded from the du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival website at:

www.foweyfestival.com

SUBMISSION:

- Entries are welcome from anyone around the world over the age of 16 at time of entry.
- There is no minimum word count, however a maximum of 1,500 is applied.
- All entries can be in any prose style or genre but must be written in English and submitted as a typed manuscript.
- Emailed entries are preferred. They should be accompanied by an entry form and emailed to katie@foweyfestival.com
- Postal entries should be sent with an entry form to: The du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival, Short Story Competition, 4 Quiller Couch Way, Fowey, Cornwall PL23 1DN.
- Entries must be entirely the work of the entrant and must not have been previously published in print or online (all methods and platforms), or broadcast, or have been commended, longlisted, or shortlisted in another writing competition. Any entry found to have been plagiarised will be disqualified. Any story created with the aid of any AI application will be disqualified.
- Simultaneous submissions are welcome, but please let us know as soon as possible if your story is to be published elsewhere, has won a prize or has been longlisted or shortlisted in another writing competition. Unfortunately, we are unable to refund the entry fee in this instance.

FORMATTING:

- Remove all identifying author details such as name and email from your document and filename. The story must be free of all personal information about the author.
- Please use a 12pt font Arial or Times New Roman. Double line space your text.
- The maximum word count is 1,500 words (excluding the title). If the amount is exceeded, the submission will be disallowed. Please do not include illustrations.

- Include the word count on the top right-hand corner of the page. Please include the title of your story within the main body of the document Do not use headers and footers.
- Save as a Microsoft Word compatible document (.doc .docx) We also accept .rtf and .pdf formats. Use the story title as your file name. ***Please do not include the author's name in the file name or it will be disqualified.***
- Double check your document before attaching to your email or submitting as a postal entry. No corrections or alterations can be made after receipt of your submission.

ENTRY TERMS:

- The entry fee is £10. Any profits from the competition will go to the du Maurier Festival Society
- Entries will not be included in the competition until a completed entry form is received.
- Payment for entries can be made via bank transfer or by sending a cheque in pounds sterling, to the address listed on the entry form. Full details can be found on the entry form, which can be downloaded from the Festival website.
- Entry is confirmation of your acceptance of all rules and conditions.
- Entries will not be returned. Please keep a copy.
- Entries will be read and judged anonymously.
- The entrant's name and any personal information about the entrant should only appear on the entry form.
- Online entries will be automatically acknowledged via email.
- If you require acknowledgement of your postal entry, please supply an email address for the Festival to send the acknowledgement to. If that is not possible, please enclose a self-addressed and stamped postcard marked 'ACKNOWLEDGEMENT'.

DISCLAIMER:

The du Maurier Festival Society will not accept responsibility if contact details provided are incomplete or inaccurate; or for competition entries that are lost, mislaid damaged or delayed in transit.

PRIZES:

- First prize: £200 Second prize: £100
- Winners will be notified by the beginning of April 2026 and published on the du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival website before the Festival week in May.
- A formal presentation will be made at the 2026 du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival (May 1st – 9th with the presentation date to be finalised).
- The winning entries will be published on the Festival website.
- The du Maurier Festival Society reserves the right to use the author's material in any related publicity during the period of the festival.
- Judging is anonymous and all judges' decisions are final, and no individual correspondence will be entered into. Judges are not permitted to make external comment on any individual entry.

USE OF PERSONAL DATA:

- We collect your personal data from the information you provide to us when you enter the competition. This may consist of your name and contact details (e.g., email address)
- The personal data you provide will be used by the du Maurier Festival Society for the purposes of managing and administering the competition, including providing competition-related information, notifying the winning entrants and publishing the winning entries on the website.

If you have any questions or concerns about our processing of your data, please contact the du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival via email info@foweyfestival.com