

Women and Emerging Authors Dominate *Book of the Year Award*Nominees

Representing the best new fiction of 2017, this year's nominees for Book of the Month's annual Book of the Year award stand to win a \$10,000 grand prize.

NEW YORK, NY, December 5, 2017—Book of the Month, the country's most popular book subscription service, today announced 20 nominees for its annual Book of the Year Award, also known as "The Lolly." Culled from the selections of more than 100,000 monthly subscribers, 95% of whom are female, the nominees for the 2017 Book of the Year Award provide a unique perspective into the types of fiction that young women in America read and enjoy. This year's nominees demonstrate a particular appreciation for the work of emerging authors, women and people of color.

Starting today, tens of thousands of members will cast their votes to determine this year's winner. The winning author will enjoy a limited edition print of the winning title, to be distributed to all Book of the Month members, and for the first time ever, a \$10,000 grand prize. Likewise, the winner can expect significant attention beyond the Book of the Month community as well. Last year's award recipient, All the Ugly and Wonderful Things, written by emerging author Bryn Greenwood, vaulted onto The New York Times Bestseller list the week after it won the The Lolly.

"Winning Book of the Year meant that thousands more people heard about and read my book, and it helped propel *All The Ugly and Wonderful Things* onto the New York Times Bestseller list six months after publication," said Bryn Greenwood, last year's award winner. "I still receive all kinds of mail from readers who tell me that they wouldn't have read my book if it weren't for Book of the Month and that gorgeous gold Book of the Year cover. I love that Book of the Year is a reader's award, and it meant the world to me that Book of the Month members voted for my book over all the other great books nominated in 2016."

This year's nominees are 70% debut or emerging authors, reflecting Book of the Month's continued commitment to championing the careers of up-and-coming talent. Titles like <u>Final</u> <u>Girls</u>, the first thriller by Riley Sager, soon to be adapted to the big screen, and <u>Beasts</u> <u>of</u>

<u>Extraordinary</u> <u>Circumstance</u>, written by Scottish author Ruth Emmie Lang, vie to be the next debut title to take home the award.

Book of the Month readers have also shown a particular appreciation for female writers and writers of color. Nicola Yoon's young adult hit <u>The Sun Is Also A Star</u> and Jesmyn Ward's haunting <u>Sing</u>, <u>Unburied</u>, <u>Sing</u> were favorites this year, as well as Min Jin Lee's historical epic <u>Pachinko</u>. Similarly, genre preferences were indicated as well, with trillers or suspense novels representing 30% of nominees. Twenty percent were classified as dystopian or magical realism, and 20% classified as historical fiction.

"The Book of the Year Award is a celebration that brings our amazing members, and our highly talented authors, together around great fiction," said John Lippman, CEO of Book of the Month. "We pride ourselves on introducing readers to books that they may have never picked up otherwise, but are guaranteed to love. Seeing emerging authors come out on top this year means that we're doing what we set out to do, which is really gratifying."

A list of 5 finalists will be revealed on December 18 and the winner will be announced on January 2, 2018.

2017 Book of the Year Award Nominees (alphabetically by title)

<u>A Million Junes</u>, Emily Henry, Young Adult

American War, Omar El-Akkad, Dystopian

<u>Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance</u>, Ruth Emmie Lang, Magical Realism

Behind Her Eyes, Sarah Pinborough, Thriller

Dead Letters, Caite Dolan-Leach, Thriller

Emma in the Night, Wendy Walker, Thriller

Final Girls, Riley Sager, Thriller

Killers of the Flower Moon, David Grann, True Crime

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk, Kathleen Rooney, Historical Fiction

<u>Little Fires Everywhere</u>, Celeste Ng, Literary Fiction

Pachinko, Min Jin Lee, Historical Fiction

Since We Fell, Dennis Lehane, Thriller

Sing, Unburied, Sing, Jesmyn Ward, Literary Fiction

Sourdough, Robin Sloan, Magical Realism

The Blinds, Adam Sternbergh, Thriller

The Heart's Invisible Furies, John Boyne, Historical Fiction

The Leavers, Lisa Ko, Literary Fiction

The Power, Naomi Alderman, Dystopian

<u>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</u>, Taylor Jenkins Reid, Historical Fiction

The Sun is Also a Star, by Nicola Yoon, Young Adult

For more information, visit <u>bookoftheyear.com</u> or contact Jennifer Dwork by <u>email</u> or by calling 212-596-2030.

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