



Submissions are now open to find a black, British female contributor to add a final essay to forthcoming book, *Well-Read Black Girl: Finding Our Stories, Discovering Ourselves*, an anthology of inspiring essays by black women writers, curated by Glory Edim, the founder of the popular book club and online community, Well-Read Black Girl, about the importance of recognising ourselves in literature.

This essay competition, which is to be run by The Orion Publishing Group Limited (“Orion”), and judged by Glory Edim, Trapeze and Janklow & Nesbit Associates, is about bringing more black British female voices forward in literature. We want to hear from you if you are black, identify as female and are living in the UK, with an essay covering the following questions – when was the first time you found yourself reflected in a book, story or poem? What was the impact of this experience? This call-out for essays is your opportunity to have your writing showcased and to reach out to a wider audience.

The winner will be chosen for the quality of the writing and their originality in tackling the subject matter. Essays must be written in English and be of no more than 3,000 words, and must link with the overall theme of representation within literature. Please read the Terms and Conditions below for more information about the requirements.

The pieces in the book explore the black female experience whilst reflecting on subjects like love and relationships, racism, blackness, sexuality, self-image, mental health, feminism and the legacies passed down through our heritage, as well as many others. We are looking for an essay that complements these themes but feels fresh and original. Covering authors and books such as *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison, *Kindred* by Octavia Butler and *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith, pull your inspiration from your bookshelf. Our advice is to write about something that has particular importance for you; you might have been inspired by a specific author in your life, or it might be on a theme within a book, play or poem that really spoke to you. Whatever the topic, we want to read your written exploration of it.

The winning entry will feature in the final book alongside activists, scholars and writers such as National Book Award-winning Jesmyn Ward, Oscar-nominated actress and writer Gabourey Sibide, playwright Lynn Nottage and many more.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Remember that moment when you first encountered a character who seemed to be written just for you? That feeling of belonging remains with readers the rest of their lives - but not everyone regularly sees themselves reflected on the pages of a book.

In this timely anthology, Glory Edim, founder of the online community, Well-Read Black Girl, brings together original essays by some of America's best black women writers to shine a light on how important it is that we all - regardless of gender, race, religion, or ability - have the opportunity to find ourselves in literature.

Whether it's learning about the complexities of femalehood from Zora Neale Hurston and Toni Morrison, finding a new type of love in *The Color Purple*, or using mythology to craft an alternative black future, each essay reminds us why we turn to books in times of both struggle and relaxation. As she has done with her book club-turned-online community, Edim has created a space where black women's writing, knowledge and life experiences are lifted up, to be shared with all readers who value the power of a story to help us understand the world, and ourselves.

The competition is being run by The Orion Publishing Group Limited ("Orion"). Orion is the Promoter and the data controller. Its privacy Policy is at <https://www.orionbooks.co.uk/Information/Privacy.page>

To enter, please read the Terms and Conditions below, and then send your entry by email to wellreadblackgirlsubmissions@orionbooks.co.uk. You will receive an email asking you to confirm that you have read Orion's privacy notice and agree to its T&Cs and to the processing of your data as described in both. **You will need to email back in order to have your entry considered for the competition.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This is a competition for an essay to be published by Orion in the forthcoming book Well-Read Black Girl: Finding Our Stories, Discovering Ourselves (the "Book"). To enter, please submit your essay in accordance with the terms and conditions below
2. Entrants to the competition must submit an essay written in English and of no more than 3000 words on the subject of representation of black women within literature, drawing on a topic, book or author that they (entrants) care about, exploring how this has shaped who they are, and what message they want to get across to others (the "Criteria"). Entrants must also include a short biography about themselves.
3. The Winner will, subject to signing the Contract referred to below, have their essay published in the Book, and will receive £250 on the signing of the contract and following publication will receive 2 complimentary copies of the Book.
4. Entrants must be at least 18 years old, black, identify as female and be living in the UK. The essay must not have been previously published (including self-published) in any form in print, electronically or online including in magazines, journals, websites, blogs, social network sites, or broadcast or submitted for or won a prize in another writing competition.
5. The Winner will be selected from the entries received in accordance with these terms and conditions that fulfil the Criteria. Entries will be judged for the quality of writing, originality, and style.
6. The Winner will be selected by the editor of the Book (Glory Edim) and representatives from Orion and Janklow & Nesbit Associates (together the "Judges"), whose decision will be final.
7. The Winner will be notified by via email on 14th January 2019. The Winner may see her name posted on the Orion website and possibly other websites and social media accounts.

8. There is no purchase necessary to enter.

9. The competition opens at 6:00 am GMT on Monday 3rd December 2018 and closes at 11:59 pm GMT on Sunday 6th January 2019. Any entries received outside these specified times and dates will not be eligible for entry into the competition.

10. Entries should be submitted as a Word document, pdf or equivalent and emailed to wellreadblackgirlsubmissions@orionbooks.co.uk. Entrants will receive an email asking them to confirm that they have read Orion's privacy notice and agree to its T&Cs and to the processing of their data as described in both. They will need to email back in order to have their entry considered for the competition. Unless this email is received, the Judges will not consider the entrant's entry.

12. Entries must be entirely the original work of the entrant. Any entry found to have been plagiarised will be disqualified.

13. The publication of the essay in the Book will be subject to a separate contract being agreed between the Winner and Orion (the "Contract"). The Contract will set out the terms and conditions governing publication. The rights to be granted will include the publication of the essay in print and as an eBook throughout the world in all languages. It will also include the right to sublicense publication of the whole or part to a third party. In the event that the Winner and Orion are unable to agree a contract the Judges shall have the right to select another entry as the winning entry. Only the person whose essay is published may refer to herself as the winner of the prize.

14. A maximum of one entry per person allowed. Entries will not be accepted via agents, third parties or in bulk.

15. By submitting their entry, the entrant agrees and warrants that (i) the submission contains the entrant's own original work; and (ii) nothing in the submission is defamatory, private or an infringement of copyright or other intellectual property right or in any way a breach of another's right. If any third-party material is included it must be with the prior permission of the original writer or other creator. Orion reserves the right to ask for the permission before any prize is distributed. Any entry in breach of this clause will be disqualified from participating in the competition and from winning any prize.

16. The Company reserves the right to alter the prizes or cancel the Well-Read Black Girl essay competition without notice.

17. The Company is not responsible for contacting or forwarding prizes to entrants who provide unclear or incomplete information or for entries lost, misdirected, delayed or destroyed.

18. Orion will use the personal data of the entrants (including any special category data) that they receive in the course of the competition ("Personal Data") for the purposes of the competition. With the exception of any Personal Data or other personal data that appears in the essays, Orion will not share the Personal Data of entrants (except for the Winner) with any third parties including the Judges who will see the entries without the entrants' names. After the Winner has entered into the Contract, the Personal Data of the entrants as well as their entries will be deleted by Orion. The Winner's Personal Data will be retained by Orion and Ms Edim and used for the purposes of publishing the Book. "Winner" means the person who is selected as having submitted the winning entry or any substitute if the original winner is disqualified or unable to enter into the Contract. Orion's Privacy Notice which provides more information on how Orion uses personal data can be found here <https://www.orionbooks.co.uk/Information/Privacy.page>.

19. By entering the competition each entrant agrees to be bound by these terms and conditions.

20. This competition is being organised by The Orion Publishing Group Ltd, Carmelite House, 50 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0DZ (“Orion”)

21. These terms and conditions and any disputes or claims (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of these terms and Conditions shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of England, whose courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction.

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