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2020 STAR AWARD FOR WOMEN'S FICTION FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

The Women's Fiction Writers Association (WFWA) is excited to announce the six finalists for the 2020 STAR Award.

The Star Award has been presented to published women's fiction authors since 2016 for excellence in novels that fall under two categories: general and outstanding debut. The **general category** includes women's fiction novels published within the contest year, while the **outstanding debut** award recognizes a writer's first published work of women's fiction. Star Award submissions are accepted annually in January via the WFWA site.

The STAR award is one of WFWA's highest honors recognizing an author and a book published in the previous year. The competition is open to all published Women's Fiction stories as defined by WFWA and is open to WFWA members and non-members.

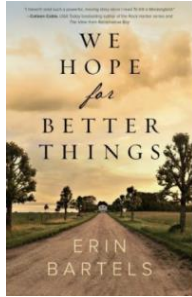
"Stories are more important now than ever," said Janet Rundquist, the 2020 STAR Award Coordinator. "Women's Fiction stories connect with readers because they center on characters and their emotional journeys. This genre offers something to everyone, including stories with elements of mystery, suspense, literary, romance, and historical fiction."

One hundred novels of published Women's Fiction were judged for one of six finalist positions, three in the **general category** and three for **outstanding debut**.

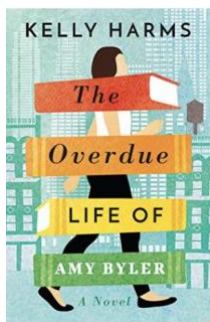
Judges' decisions are made independently of the WFWA staff and Board of Directors, and deliberations are strictly confidential. The first-round judges are self-acclaimed readers of women's fiction. Finalists will ascend to a second round judged by librarians.

Finalists for General category, in alphabetical order:

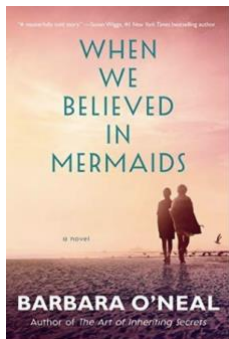
***We Hope for Better Things* - Erin Bartels (Fleming H. Revell Co)**



***The Overdue Life of Amy Byler* - Kelly Harms (Lake Union)**

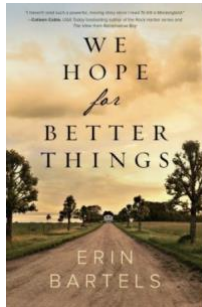


***When We Believed in Mermaids* - Barbara O'Neal (Lake Union)**

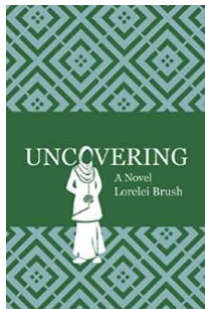


Debut category

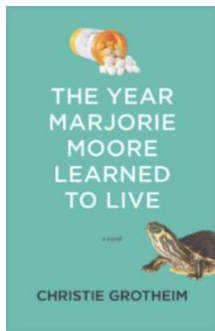
***We Hope for Better Things* - Erin Bartels (Fleming H. Revell Co)**



***Uncovering* - Lorelei Brush (Mascot Books)**



***The Year Marjorie Moore Learned to Live* - Christie Grotheim (Heliotrope Books)**



The Winners will be announced at the annual WFWA Retreat in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 2020.

Further details of the STAR Award can be found [here](#).

About The Women's Fiction Writers Association (WFWA)

The Women's Fiction Writers Association (WFWA) was founded in 2013 as a professional, non-profit organization for women's fiction writers and publishing professionals. With more than twelve-hundred international members and growing, WFWA is the premier organization for Women's Fiction. WFWA fosters an online community of inclusion and opportunity, and provides resources, professional development, networking, and support for aspiring, debut, and published women's fiction authors. Learn more at www.womensfictionwriters.org. Twitter: @wf_writers, Instagram: womensfictionwriters