

# A BRIEF HISTORY

1996

The Orange Prize for Fiction is awarded for the first time.

2001

The Orange/Libraries project with The Reading Partnership and 75 library authorities launches.

A shadow male judging panel is asked to draw up a prize shortlist, as part of a study of gendered reading habits.

2010

Her Majesty The Queen Camilla (then, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall) attends the award ceremony as her first public engagement in the book world and presents the 15th winner with her Bessie.

2012

Orange announces the end of its 17-year sponsorship of the Women's Prize for Fiction.

2014

The first Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction is awarded.

2016

The Prize opens its first-ever pop-up 'book bar' in Waterstones, Tottenham Court Road.

2017

The Women's Prize for Fiction moves to a 'family of sponsors' model. Over the coming years, sponsors include NatWest, Fremantle, Deloitte, Audible and Baileys.

2019

The Women's Prize *Bookshelfie* podcast launches.

2020

*Half of a Yellow Sun* is named 'Winner of Winners' out of 24 previous winners in a public vote with 10,000 readers.

'Discoveries', our development programme for unpublished and unagented women writers, launches with Curtis Brown and Curtis Brown Creative.

2021

The first Women's Prize LIVE festival takes place in Bedford Square Gardens, in the heart of Bloomsbury, London.

2023

Barbara Kingsolver is the first double winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction.

2024

The first Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, supported by Findmypast, is awarded to Naomi Klein for *Doppelganger*.

2025

The 30th winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction will be announced on 13 June 2025...

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