



The Journey Prize Stories 27

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"Expect pleasure. Expect delight. Expect surprise. Expect these twelve writers to emerge as some of this country's most interesting voices."

Anthony De Sa, Tanis Rideout, and Carrie Snyder (from their Introduction)

The celebrated annual collection showcasing the best stories by the best new writers in Canada, all contenders for the prestigious \$10,000 Writers' Trust of Canada/McClelland & Stewart Journey Prize. A must-read for anyone looking for exciting new voices in Canadian fiction.

For three decades, this acclaimed annual anthology has introduced readers to the next generation of great Canadian writers. With settings ranging from a small-town hobby farm to the streets of Hong Kong, from a dance club in 1979 to the years after the end of the world, the twelve stories in this collection represent the year's best short fiction by some of our most exciting emerging writers.

Among the stories this year: When Mercy Beatrice decides to seek out her long-lost father against the advice of her late pro-wrestler mother, she discovers that wrestling may be in her blood. After her dying husband makes a surprising wish, a woman sets herself the task of finding him a lover. A young man—lost and craving reinvention—makes the unlikely trip back to his hometown after he inherits his uncle's farm. In a touching story about the intersection between Chinese tradition and modern expectations, a woman must weigh the possibilities in her own life when her family prepares for the naming ceremony for her cousin's month-old baby. A philosophy student struggling with a broken heart and the meaning of Being must also contend with her new neighbours and their wildly precocious infant. Two travellers in desperate straits look for refuge on a remote Italian farm that proves to be anything but idyllic.

The stories included in the anthology are contenders for the \$10,000 Journey Prize, which is made possible by Pulitzer Prize-winning author James A. Michener's donation of Canadian royalties from his novel *Journey*. The 2015 winner will be announced by the Writers' Trust of Canada on November 3, 2015. For more information: www.facebook.com/TheJourneyPrize

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Margaret Watt:

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