



ENTENTE LITTÉRAIRE PRIZE – 2026 SHORTLIST REVEALED

The Franco-British jury of the Entente Littéraire Prize (Prix de l'Entente Littéraire) has revealed its 2026 shortlist.

Officially launched by Her Majesty Queen Camilla and Madame Brigitte Macron during Their Majesties State Visit to France in 2023, the Entente Littéraire Prize celebrates the cultural dialogue between France and the United Kingdom through literature.

The Prize, a collaboration between Institut français du Royaume-Uni and the Royal Society of Literature, encourages the sharing of reading experiences between French and British audiences and highlights the essential role played by translators in bringing works, ideas and imaginations across linguistic and cultural borders.

The second edition of the Entente Littéraire Prize celebrates literary fiction translated between French and English and distinguishes two categories of works.

The Franco-British jury has selected the following shortlist:

1) works originally written in French and published in France, translated into English and published in the United Kingdom - selected by the British panel.

- *Collapse* by Édouard Louis. Translated by Tash Aw. Published by Harvill
- *Tata* by Valérie Perrin. Translated by Hildegard Serle. Published by Europa Editions
- *Madelaine before the Dawn* by Sandrine Collette. Translated by Alison Anderson. Published by Europa Editions
- The British panel is chaired by novelist and President of the Royal Society of Literature Elif Shafak, alongside Ken Follett and Hollie McNish.

2) works originally written in English and published in the United Kingdom, translated into French and published in France - selected by the French panel.

- *Enter Ghost* by Isabella Hammad. Translated by Josée Kamoun. Published by Gallimard
- *Caledonian Road* by Andrew O'Hagan. Translated by Céline Schwaller. Published by Métailié

- *I'm a fan* by Sheena Patel. Translated by Marie Darrieussecq.
Published by Gallimard
- The French panel is chaired by writer and President of the Académie Goncourt, Philippe Claudel, alongside Leïla Slimani and Augustin Trapenard.

Two prizes (one in each category) will be awarded, with both author and translator recognised.

ON THE SHORTLISTED WORKS, THE JURY SAID:

Collapse, Edouard Louis. “Collapse is a novel of great power, deeply moving, and marvellously credible. Louis writes about an insanely dysfunctional. family living in a village which is a hell of violence, hatred, and prejudice. We read it in fear, with bated breath, as if watching a drunk on a tightrope”

Tata by Valerie Perrin. “This beautiful book by Valerie Perrin was one of the most original tellings of tales I've come across. Flickering delightfully between past and present, through memory, conversation and recordings. What a triumph to have written this gripping story, woven from so many different and diverse threads. A thrill to read.”

Madelaine before the Dawn, Sandrine Collette. “This unreal, intriguing story is set in an alternative universe that is mainly medieval. It portrays a small community struggling with both nature and oppression. The setting and its people are portrayed with marvellous vividness, and quickly gain our sympathy and pity.”

Enter Ghost, Isabella Hammad. “A political book, an artistic manifesto, a tribute to the theatre, its power, and its capacity for resistance, this novel succeeds in drawing the reader into the complexity of everyday life in Israel and the occupied territories. It portrays the relationships, misunderstandings, dreams, and desires that can emerge there”.

Caledonian Road, Andrew O'Hagan. “A polyphonic and wide-ranging novel, a breathtaking page-turner brimming with insight, humour, and intelligence, which takes us to the heart of our paradoxical, exhilarating, multifaceted, and guilt-ridden age”.

I'm a Fan, Sheena Patel. “A disturbing, abrasive, and obsessive text, right down to its repetitive form, that invites us into the mind of a young woman haunted both by a man and by the ways in which her contemporaries present themselves through social media”.

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