

MAY 2024 ISSUE

PUBLISH'D AFRIKA

LITERARY MAGAZINE

SBU DIKIZA

Shattering the
"Blacks Don't
Read"
Stereotype

**PUBLISH'D AFRIKA
HALL OF FAME**

11 Books
Approved by
GDE

**KNOWLEDGE BEYOND
MAINSTREAM MEDIA**

Gakwi Mashego

**WHERE HAVE ALL
THE ABUSIVE MEN
GONE?**

Anaishe -
Men-killing
Vigilante On
The Loose

**BOTSWANA AUTHOR WINS
R935 000 WHITING AWARD
GOTHATAONE MOENG**

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Botswana Author Wins R935 000 Whiting Award



Botswana journalist and author Gothataone Moeng has won the prestigious Whiting Award, for her book "Call and Response."

The award is accompanied by a purse of \$50,000 (a little over R935 000). Moeng's collection of short stories highlights the experiences of women and girls in modern-day Botswana. The Whiting Award jury praised Moeng's evocative storytelling, which emphasises the importance of human connection amidst change.

This esteemed award has elevated Botswana's literary

scene and sparked enthusiasm for storytelling both locally and globally.

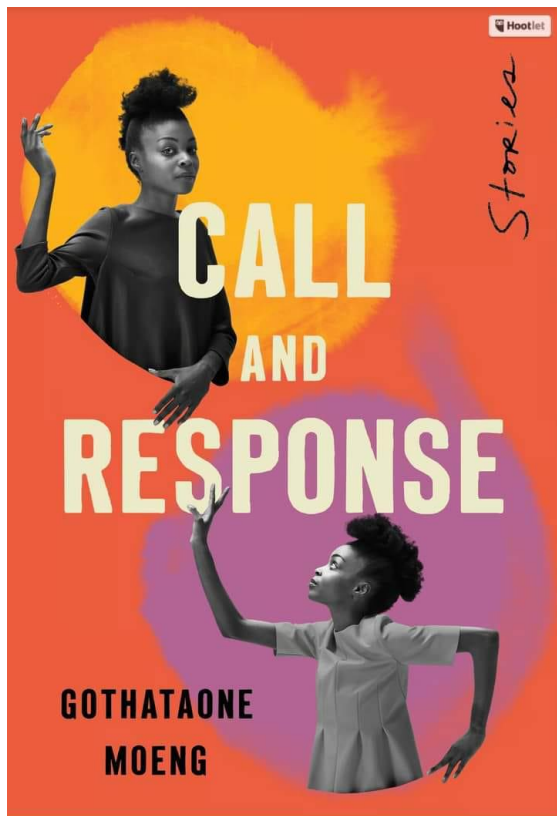
"To me, the short story seems humble and inward-looking, but also capacious, with the ability to contain the world," she says. "As a beginning writer, I think I was drawn to it first by this sense of its humility and smallness."

Moeng's stories are strongly anchored in place and set in two distinct locations: the

village of Serowe, where Moeng herself is from, and the city of Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. The book captures the journeys of women and girls in contemporary Botswana as they navigate relationships, tradition, and caretaking in a rapidly changing world.

In an interview with American journalist Scott Simon, Moeng said most of the characters in her book are inspired by people she has known from the villages in Botswana while she was growing up.

“I was born in Serowe and spent much of my time in a smaller Makalamabedi village,” she said. “I then went to Goborone at 13 years old to be at Boarding School there, before moving to Mississippi for graduate school.”



Much of the book, she said, is set in her

home village of Serowe, Botswana Ward, and the stories are similar to women in her own family – her cousins and her aunts. Currently based in the United States, Moeng did return home during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“I must say, being home was a humbling time and interesting, though I often felt nostalgic and homesick,” she said. “When you are home in the village, people can drop in at any time, I was noticing so many of my mother’s friends would drop in and you are expected to drop what you are doing and make them tea. I noticed that I was getting really frustrated and I wondered why. It was because I haven’t lived in a village for so long and I essentially lived by myself in the US. I quickly went back to the fold and really enjoyed spending time with my mother and my older aunties, who filled me in on gossip on just about everybody.”

Listen to her interview with American Journalist Scott Simon: <https://dcs.megaphone.fm/NPR5488122379.mp3>

PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Hall Of Fame -11 Books Approved By GDE

A total of 11 books developed and published by PUBLISH'D AFRIKA have been approved for the Gauteng Department of Education Library Resource Catalogue 2024/25, with four other books having been approved in the previous call for submissions.

Amongst the books approved are four children's books for grades 1 to 5, while the other books range for grades between 9 to 12. We are especially proud that one of the books approved for grades 11

and 12 is ***Spoiling The Broth Volume 1***, a short story anthology that was born of the PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine Short Story Competition that we have been running since 2021.

See below details of the books that have been approved, in no particular order.



Spoiling The Broth Volume 1 – Various Authors



Born of the PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Short Story Competition, ***Spoiling The Broth Volume 1*** is

one of the 11 books published by PUBLISH'D AFRIKA, that has been approved by GDE for grades 11 and 12. While the majority of ***Spoiling The Broth*** anthology contributors are aspiring authors, the short story collection is a melting pot of youth and

experience with at least seven published authors.

The volume is made of contributions by Anathi Kom, Busisekile Khumalo, Hidayat Adams, Busisiwe I Ngwenya, Kaone Thulo, Kay Ngoben, Mmathabo Mmabatho Motaung, Namhla Zwelakhe, Violetta Simthandile, Yandi Hlomuka, Thubelihle Chance Ntombela, and Zambian Isaac Kanyinji. Busisekile is the author of the acclaimed Harvard Series, *Her Silent Screams* and *Fallen Candle*, while Cape Town based author Hidayat Adams has published a collection of short stories titled *Mhlobam and Other Stories*. Anathi Kom is a product of **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA's Adopt-An-Author Program**, while Kanyinji's ebook was edited and published by **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**.

Anathi Kom – The Tree Of Life



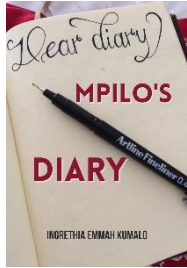
She had a body of work to publish, but like many budding scribes out there, she did not have the money to fund her publishing dream.

“Can you please just have a look at my work and tell me what you think?” she urged **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA** co-founder Sukoluhle Nontokozo Mdlongwa. Sukoluhle was supposed to take just a cursory peek, but ended up being hooked from the first page to the last. Anathi's collection of poetry, titled ***The Tree Of Life***, ignite hope, heal the soul and speak to the reader at a deeper level.

“Although we are a self-publishing agency, I couldn't let such a touching body of work gather dust or go to waste,” said Sukoluhle. “The book was published under **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA's Adopt-An-Author Programme** and now, a year and a half later, it has been approved by GDE.”

Anathi is looking forward to writing more and achieving more. She is also part of the ***Spoiling The Broth Volume 1***, which has also been approved by GDE.

Emmah Ingrethia Kumalo – Mpilo's Diary



Mpilo's Diary by Emmah Ingrethia Kumalo was PUBLISH'D AFRIKA's 100th book to be published since the company's inception. The book was previously published in 2022, but due to the glaring errors the author and some readers identified after the book was published, Emmah approached PUBLISH'D AFRIKA to assist her to revise it. *Mpilo's Diary* is the fifth previously published book PUBLISH'D AFRIKA has been entrusted with its revision in a space of two years. The revisions entail that amongst other things, we develop the characters and story line, tighten the plot and flow, spit-and-polish language and grammar, and remove plausibility issues while ensuring that we retain the author's voice in the narrative.

Lebogane Mhlango – Blood Brothers: The Hatred



Lebogane's book, ***Blood Brothers: The Hatred*** revolves around the death of Hlamalani, the third wife of the wealthy Daniel Mathebula, which casts a dark cloud over the Mathebula household. Within three months, two more deaths rock the family, and the third son is lying on a hospital bed, terribly sick. It seems Daniel's wealth – cattle dotting the countryside as far as the eye can see – is the source and catalyst of the family's suffering.

But Daniel's first wife Francine, and her son Franz, are utterly unfazed by the tragedy befalling the family. The deaths are after all in Hlamalani's side of the homestead. In fact, Franz is determined to benefit from the tragedy, when he demands to move into his late brother Nhlamulo's house and take his widow as his wife. In a fit of rage, Daniel banishes him, inadvertently sparking a feud between Blood Brothers, the late Hlamalani's son Nyiko, and Francine's son Franz.

Sarah Mude Mberengo – The Nesu Series Trilogy



The Nesu Series, a children's stories trilogy from the quill of author and educator Sarah Mberengo, is made up of *The Adventures of Nesu*, *Nesu The Magician* and *Witchhunting and Other Stories*. Expertly crafted and easy to read, Sarah has penned stories that are packed with life lessons not just for the young ones, but also for parents and educators. Each story ends with a lesson for the kids as well as giving adults a reason to be open-minded and listen to kids' ideas, no matter how stupid they may seem. Sarah is a natural storyteller who writes with a relevance that transcends class, gender, age and belief. She is the author of 'A Means to an End', which was published in 2016 and *Such is Life*, a collection of short stories that was published in 2021.

Vernon Nesengani – Overcoming Depression: A Guide To triumphing Over Depression



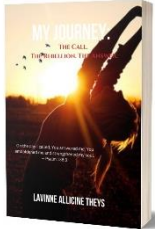
The 21st Century is characterised by an unprecedented number of people committing suicide because of depression. There are so many people who are secretly – and unknowingly – suffering from depression but elect not to show it to the next person.

So said Vernon Nesengani, author of **Overcoming Depression: A Guide To Triumphing Over Depression**. Vernon published his book through **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**. The candidate attorney, from Folovhodwe in Limpopo but currently working in Pretoria, suffered from depression for over 10 years, and is that exact person who can tell you without a

shred of doubt what depression is capable of.

“Depression is culpable of many unlived dreams and untimely deaths of many,” he said. “Depression is indeed an unfortunate condition you will ever find yourself in, but the salient fact is that once you acquire knowledge on how depression operates, then depression becomes totally innocuous to your wellbeing. I definitely know what I’m talking about because I have been there.”

Lavinne Theys – **My Journey: The Call. The Rebellion. The Answer**



Lavinne Theys has always been different; from when she was a baby there was something special about her. She started reading at

the age of four, and the most amazing part was that she started reading from the Bible. At the Age of five, she decided that she was ready for school. She would wait for her parents to leave for work, dress herself and then tell the family helper that her parents had said she should be taken to school. Lavinne Theys is the author of the book **My Journey: The Call. Rebellion. The Answer**. The book tells the story of how she was drawn to God from a young age, how life’s hardship made her to question the Almighty and

how she eventually found her way and discovered God’s purpose for her life.

“The book is about how God journeyed with me through life and its hardships,” she says. “It is about how I have overcome and still kept my faith amidst the storms that came into my life. From the time I was an infant the enemy tried to rob me of life. I almost died at four months old while choking on water, but God was not done with me. He needed me to do great things so that He may be glorified.”

Sarona Lengana – **The Pikinini Scientist Sprinkles Some Love Dust**



If there is one thing that makes the book, **The Pikinini Scientist Sprinkles Some Love Dust**, appeal to mostly Black kiddies, it is that it is relatable and they can see themselves in the character.

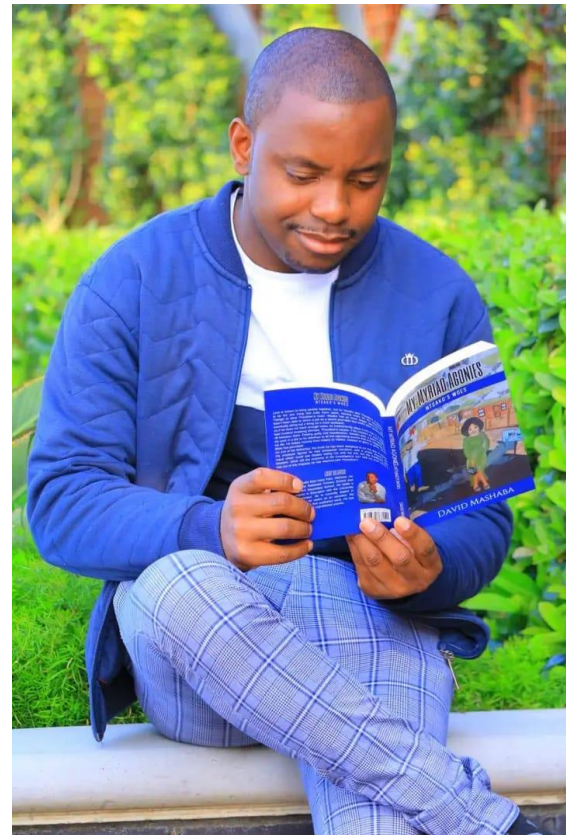
“Small kiddies are living the illustrations, with one cutie saying she wants to try all the hairstyles in the book,” said author Sarona Lengana. “Another was taken aback that Pikinini is Black like her.”

Doting mother Sarona Lengana was struggling to explain self-care to her daughter, and the idea of penning a children’s book that would answer some of these questions seemed like God’s answer back to her. The result was *The Pikinini Scientist Sprinkles Some Love Dust*, a children’s book that can be used as a guide to coach children on how to continue to be their amazing selves, even when the reaction or output doesn’t look superb.

“The book is helping me re-parent myself too, so I’m showing up as my best self in my own life,” said Sarona. “The book is aimed at adults, guardians, parents, at a teacher who is looking for practical ideas on how to coach kids to have healthy perspectives and boundaries, and get an opportunity to explicitly remind them that they are MAGIC!”

The book also recently won the Outstanding Children’s Fiction Award at the Cultural and Creative Industry Awards.

David Mashaba – My Myriad Agonies



From when he was a boy running barefoot in the dusty township streets, all David Mashaba dreamt about was publishing a book one day. Today, that childhood dream has come true.

“All the years of writing, deleting, re-writing and editing have finally paid off,” he said. “I am especially happy with the contribution and spin **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA** has put on the original manuscript. You came highly recommended, and I can now see why.”

David’s book, titled ***My Myriad Agonies – Ntsako’s Woes***, centres around two people who are destined to be together, but life seem to continuously drive a

wedge between them. While love is known to bring people together, for Ntsako and Thandiwe, it seems to be the one thing that pulls them apart, leaving room for the flamboyant Tebogo to steal Thandiwe's heart. Ntsako has an even bigger dilemma – he hasn't been able to clinch a job as a sports journalist two years after graduating, eventually eking out a living as a truck assistant.

“As if he does not have enough woes, he inadvertently plays a key role in a near fatal incident involving Michael, Thandiwe's cousin,” said David. “This

creates an even bigger rift between them. Feeling guilty and heartbroken, Ntsako puts a laser focus on his work in a bid to be oblivious to all the agonising events that are happening in his life. He keeps moving from misery to misery, instead of glory to glory, as his Bible has promised.”

On one of his deliveries, the truck he has been assigned to on the day is looted. His employer figures he was somewhat complicit, and a probe ensues, the result which could see Ntsako losing not only his job, but his livelihood and freedom.



SPECULATIVE LITERATURE FOUNDATION

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THE OLDER WRITERS
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Eligibility:

- At least **fifty years** of age at the time of application
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bit.ly/olderwritersgrant

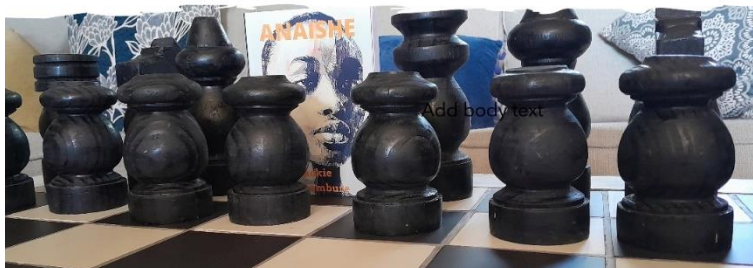
DEADLINE MAY 31, 2024

Where Have All The Abusive Men Gone? Anaishe – Men-killing Vigilante on the loose



ANAIISHE: VICTOR OR VILLAIN?

What's her next move?



24-year-old Anaishe gets pregnant after only having sex once and is now in an unhappy, abusive marriage with a man she initially believed would be her soulmate.

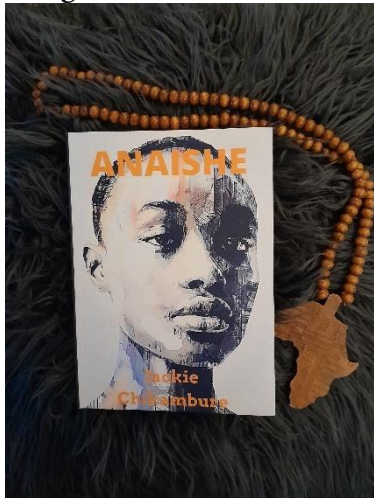
She tries desperately to make her marriage work. Then one day, under mysterious circumstances, her husband-problem is no more. Suddenly, men all around Gauteng, who abuse their wives/partners are disappearing or dying. The police begin to investigate the murders and suspect Anaishe of being the vigilante who is

murdering abusive spouses. But their dilemma is that Anaishe is this quiet, kind, single mother – could she be capable of such violence? If she is, is she a hero or a villain?

This is the setting of the novel *Anaishe* by Jackie Chikambure. Anaishe (pronounced “Ana-e-shay”) is Shona meaning “this person is with God”, which is a little ironic given the turmoil the main character goes through. The approach the author took was to talk about a very dark, perturbing reality in the South African community, but wrap it up in a dramatic, thrilling, crime fiction novel.

The book follows Anaishe, a 24-year-old immigrant who gets pregnant after only having sex once (great luck) and is now in an unhappy, abusive marriage with a man she believed would be her soulmate. She tries desperately to make her marriage work. Then one day, under mysterious circumstances, her husband-problem is no more. Suddenly, men all around Gauteng, who abuse their wives/partners are disappearing or dying. The police begin to investigate the murders and they

suspect Anaishe of being the vigilante who is murdering abusive spouses. Now, remember, Ana is this quiet, kind, single mother – could she be capable of such? The discussions that ensue around this are that, *if* Ana is cleansing South Africa of abusive men, is she doing a bad thing or is she a hero?



The novel is set against the background of a femicide-riddled South Africa, but this is not what the novel is about. Jackie is careful not to use the book as a pulpit to lecture readers about GBV or ask them to suddenly get off their chairs and march, although these actions happen in the book. The book is about a mother, desperate to raise her only son to be a man of virtue, and she uses questionable means to make sure that she achieves her goals. By the end of the read, you are wondering who you are rooting for.

“The lines between who is bad, and who is good are blurred, and it explores the nuances of GBV and its perpetrators, providing an alternative view on how we understand GBV,” she says. “The reason I

wrote the book like this is because I want people to get immersed and wrapped up in the thrill of the story and enjoy it. What they learn along the way is a massive bonus. Just remember, the world is not as black and white as many would like to believe.”

Anyone who loves an intricate storyline and a good crime thriller should pick this novel up. The book has resonated mostly with young women and surprisingly, men over 50.



“Although the topic is a sensitive one, the reception has been positive, which has made me so happy because I put my heart and soul into writing this book,” says Jackie. “I have had insightful conversations with people around GBV after they finished reading it and I hope it will continue to open more spaces for discussion.”

To purchase a copy of the book, visit the website: www.tellourstory.org/anaishe

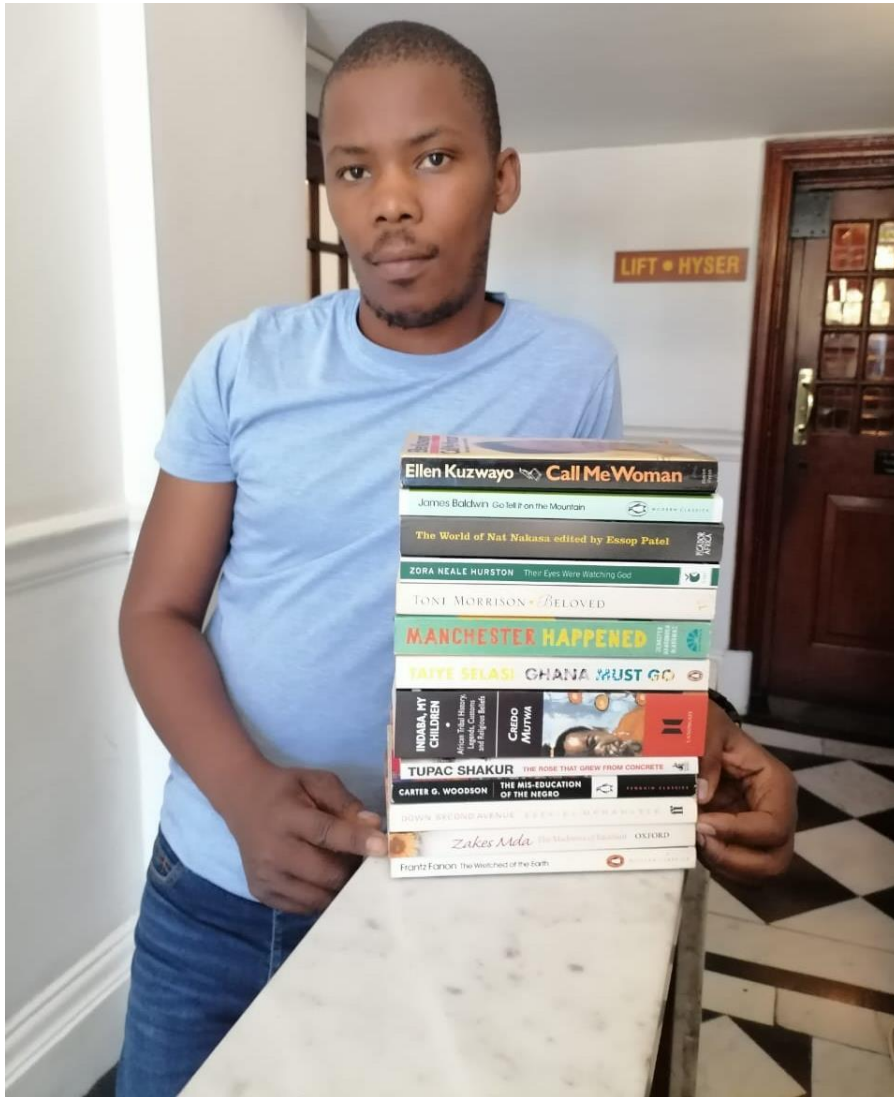
Or email Jackie at jackie@tellourstory.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/tellourstory.org/

Insta: instagram.com/ladywriter_jay

Sbu Dikiza: Shattering the “Blacks Don’t Read” Stereotype



In the townships, if you are someone who loves reading books, you are labelled a coconut, mainly because reading is associated with a certain type of people, race or society.

Sbu Dikiza, a Cape Town based independent bookseller, has set out to shatter this stereotype and has made reading fashionable. In the past eight years, he has sold thousands of books and that made him realise that

people actually do love books.

“People love book, it’s just that the ones they have access to in our libraries, they can't really relate to them,” he says. “However, there definitely is some slight improvement.”

When Sbu began selling books, he was known for selling "African literature". At

the time, it was quite rare to find books written by Black authors in South Africa and abroad, and that was when he saw a gap in the market. The love for books is something he developed in 2011 when he became a member of PAC (Pan Africanist

Congress of Azania) through a friend he met at the college in 2011.

“He introduced me to great human beings that I never knew existed,” he says. “The likes of Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe and Malcolm X, who were vocal about reading. The following quotes support the above claim:

-‘Reading had changed forever the course of my life.’ ~Malcolm X

-‘Read absolutely everything you get your hands on because you never know where you'll get an idea from.’ ~Malcolm X

-‘Read everything you come across with, if you come across a paper pick it up and read it so that you know what the Apartheid government says about us.’ ~Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe

“The story of Malcolm X is a beautiful story that shows how books can change someone's life,” says Sbu. “When he was arrested for housebreaking, he became an avid reader in prison. He became the greatest leader who was adored by people in America. The story of Sobukwe is quite different to that of Malcolm even though they were both arrested. Sobukwe was arrested for fighting for freedom and he was isolated in Robben Island. He spent most of his time reading books at Robben Island. My love for books comes from such stories, and selling books is something I truly enjoy.”

Sbu does not only sell adults books, but also tried his hand at selling kiddies books, but the response was not what he had expected from the parents. It discouraged him to continue to sell those books. However, he still strongly believes that kids need to be introduced to literacy as early as possible.

“This is one of the challenges we are facing with in this country, kids are struggling to read and write,” he says. “Parents need to be involved in this by reading for their kids and encourage them to go to libraries to borrow books.”

Sbu has a degree in Geology, but decided to sell books than to pursue a career in Geology.



“I knew that Geology would not give me the happiness I get from selling books and interacting with readers. My business model is like this: I go to different charity bookstores to look for books I could sell, take a photo of those books and post them on social media. Then customers would select the ones they are interested

in. I then buy the ones selected and courier them with different courier companies. Most of my clientele comes from outside the province.”

Sbu says doing business online is not easy; it has its own challenges. Struggling to get books he wants to sell is one of the challenges, as well as having to deal with people who demand for books to be kept aside for them while they know that they are not going to buy them.

“Another challenge is the loss of parcels, and it has happened so many times that I

ended up replacing the lost parcels,” he says. “My books prices range from R50 to R200, they are mostly in good condition. What keeps me going is the perception that Black people do not read. There might be some truth in this, but it is not entirely true. Every time I sell books, I do so to challenge this perception. The joy that people get from buying books and receiving them is what keeps me going, as well as the reviews I receive and the recommendations I get from people. People love books and as long this love is still there, I will continue to sell books and I believe that I was born to do this.”



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Knowledge Beyond Mainstream Media – Gakwi Mashego

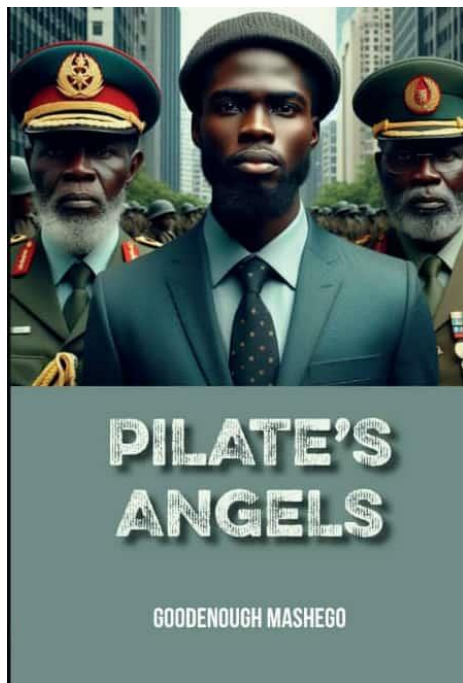


Jean-Pierrie Ilibagiza, a highly resourceful Rwandan spy, is planted in South Africa's Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO). It is a tempting gamble for his handlers to finally have eyes and ears inside the heart of South Africa's foreign policy think-tank, including policy towards the Great Lakes region.

What Jean-Pierrie's handler, General Yves Akayesu, who has an International Criminal Court arrest warrant for war

crimes committed in DRC, and his comrades, do not know is that the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) has a sealed indictment of Akayesu for an ambush that killed three South African soldiers deployed to the DRC. Kigali does not know that the post at DIRCO is bait dangled by South Africa's State Security Agency (SSA) to fish Akayesu from Rwanda's swamp and drag him to face South African justice.

This is the premise of the Novel, *Pilate's Angel*, penned by the multi-talented Gakwi Goodenough Mashego. The novel is the story of a savvy, astute and diligent spy who excels way beyond his employer's wildest expectations. It is also Mashego's way of reminding every reader that there is knowledge beyond everything they read in mainstream newspapers.



Pilate's Angels was inspired by the shadow war that has been going on between South Africa and Rwanda since South Africa deployed soldiers to Kivu and the Rwandan political elite developed an appetite for Congolese minerals. The sparring between the two powerhouses has been in the shadows for some time and very few people understood what is

going on every time there is a flare-up and refugees flee Goma and other cities in the Kivu region.

Mashego told **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**: "I have studied that conflict, from when Laurent Kabila was facilitated into power by Nelson Mandela's foreign policy doves, who negotiated Mobutu Sese-Seko's 'peaceful' exit and exile. This book shines a light into that shadow conflict in a fictional tale of cat and mouse filled with deception, intrigue and big power politics."

Pilate's Angels, like most of Mashego's writings, is written for people who want to know more and not settle for the obvious Googlable clutter. His writings, from *Journey With Me* to *St. Peter's Diary*, are best enjoyed when one is relatively informed. His works are meant to add another layer to what is already painted on the canvas of knowledge.

"*Pilate's Angels* is for people who enjoy fast-paced espionage thrillers, intelligent writing, and those who want to add to their understanding of the world," he says. "The world is too damn complicated to comprehend without a news digest and *Pilate's Angels* is the closest to an encyclopedia for the Great Lakes region any reader will come across."

The novel is Mashego's first foray into the genre of long fiction. The title itself

should be interesting because the most famous Pilate was the Roman judge who washed his hands of the blood of Jesus. Unknown to many, Pilate also happens to be the nickname of Rwandan President Paul Kagame. He earned it in the 1980s when he was an intelligence operative for Yoweri Museveni's rebel forces in Uganda.

"They called him 'Pilato' due to his legendary ruthlessness and vindictive approach to alleged and imagined treason," says Mashego. "It's widely reported that insurgents would be killed for merely falling asleep on the job instead of being court-martialled."

"So the title, *Pilate's Angels*, speaks to a post-genocide dispensation in Rwanda. The novel is a fictional take at the people who keep Kagame's regime in power and his angels' way of dealing with those who dissent against his foibles and political excesses that have in recent years included grooming his son to take over from him when he retires."

Although *Pilate's Angels* is Mashego's debut in long fiction, he is no stranger to the written word. He started writing in primary school, inspired by tens of books his mother brought home from work. He had read them all from cover to cover before he was even 14.

"They were a variety of cartoon magazines, picture story books, novels, short stories, poetry anthologies, *Readers' Digest* and many other genres I can't recall today," he says. "And growing up often reading religious literature such as Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania's monthly magazine titled *Awake!* which was more of a general interest pamphlet than biblical literature. There was a time its theme was the Second World War. It chronicled battles between the Axis Powers and Allied Forces. *Awake!* was highly informative with a catchy narrative style. I can easily remember the story about the sinking of The Bismarck, a German warship that had wreaked havoc to Allied shipping for years. It was such material that inculcated in me quite early the love for words and storytelling."

Mashego says he believes the book will inspire a 'wow' and remind every reader that there is knowledge beyond what they read in mainstream newspaper.

"I remember a literary editor who, after reading one of my manuscripts of the same genre, commented about style, plot, characters and all that skilled editors focus on; and then she added a postscript, 'if I may ask, how do you know all these things?' That's what I want readers to take

away – that there is knowledge beyond a newspaper mainstream.”

Mashego is also a journalist, editor, literary adjudicator, publisher, filmmaker, playwright, radio scriptwriter, poet, blogger, novelist, short story writer,

political analyst, oral historian, teacher and many other things often unrelated.

“I am also an amateur house-builder, carpenter, oil, charcoal painter, cartoonist and rapper,” he says.

To order your copy, get in touch with Mashego at 079 185 0864.



WSA
Writers Space Africa
Reclaiming the Narrative

**THEME:
PURPOSE**

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Writers Space Africa (WSA) Literary magazine
is accepting submissions for its 91st edition (July 2024 Edition).
Please submit in any of the following genres

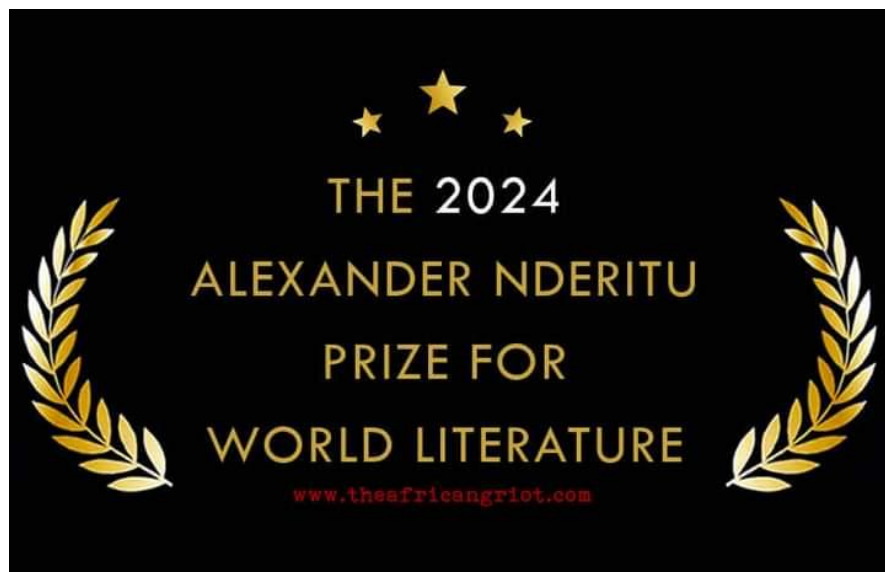
Children's Literature | Creative Non-fiction
Flash Fiction | Poetry | Short Stories

To submit, Visit:
www.writersspace.net

Submission Deadline
May 15, 2024

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS:

The Alexander Nderitu Prize For World Literature



The Prize will be awarded to the best piece of unpublished short fiction from anywhere in the world and is aimed at launching new literary stars. Entries may be in English or Kiswahili. Being cognizant of the turbulent times we are currently living in, this year's theme is: 'Peace'.

The overall winner shall receive a Kshs 100,000 (\$750,00 or R14 022,00) cash prize and an online marketing campaign worth another Kshs 100,000; sponsored by Websoft Interactive.

There is no entry fee.

The submission window will open on 1 May 2024 and close on 31 May 2024. The winner will be announced via TheAfricanGriot.com by the Founder later in the year.

For any inquiries regarding the Prize, please email: [admin\(at\)theafricangriot.com](mailto:admin@theafricangriot.com)

<https://theafricangriot.com/AlexanderNderituPrizeForWorldLiterature.html>

Take Your Writing To The Next Level

Do you want to take your writing to the next level? The Jacana Literary Foundation and Hawthornden Foundation have curated a sparkling programme of digital masterclasses, which will help you do just that.

Internationally acclaimed authors, Arja Salafranca, Niq Mhlongo, Mubanga Kalimamukwento, Denis Hirson and Phillippa Yaa de Villiers, share their peculiar and particular insights into the arts of travel writing, short stories, fiction, memoir and poetry.

All aspiring writers, published writers, and anyone dreaming of writing the first few words of a manuscript –join us!

Click here to sign up: <https://www.crowdcast.io/@jacana-media>

African Women's Writers Workshop

Ever wondered what the future of Black publishing holds? Or have you pondered the legacies today's literary giants will leave behind for future generations? Undoubtedly, African and global Black publishing have evolved over the years, and we are proud participants in today's vibrant landscape. However, these questions not only occupy our minds but also inform our path towards our 2030 vision.

At the heart of this vision are several commitments towards expanding our understanding of what global Black publishing can look like, and growing beyond the confines placed upon Black writers. As such, we are committed to championing Black women writers within the male-dominated non-fiction space, where broader representation is sorely overdue. Today's publishing landscape has relegated Black women to the role of storytellers, focusing on fiction, memoir, or personal essays, despite a rich history of Black women as knowledge creators and critical thinkers, producing theoretically rich works of non-fiction.

We envision a future where the literary landscape reflects a balance of the voices that make up our world – both on and off the page. A space where women writers aren't just heard but celebrated, where their work resonates far and wide. The future we're striving for is one where diversity isn't just a buzzword but a lived reality. This is where our latest project comes in.

We are thrilled to share about our upcoming African Women's Non-fiction Writing and Editing Workshops, two residential workshops for African women living on the continent and interested in writing or editing non-fiction. Over a 10-day period, participants will be led by a renowned (soon to be announced) Black female author and editor through a rigorous curriculum aimed at refining their craft and engaging critically with the rich tradition of non-fiction writing and editing, all while exploring their own unique voice and style. Behind every great writer is a great editor, and Black women can only take up meaningful space in the non-fiction genre when there are more Black women editors as well as writers, to nurture and foster great work.

To top it off, the workshop will culminate in a final essay to be published in an anthology by Cassava Republic Press under the theme, TABOO. Participants will explore the subject from different angles of their choosing in a final essay, bringing fresh insights to the conversation. The essays will then be edited by participants in the Editing workshop, with guidance from the facilitator.

With a generous grant from Open Society Africa and institutional support from the Johannesburg Institute of Advanced Study, the workshops will be held July and September 2024 in Johannesburg, South Africa, inclusive of travel within the continent, accommodation, and meals for all participants.

Expanding our catalogue of non-fiction titles by Black women, such as *She Called Me Woman*, *Longthroat Memoirs*, and *Female Fear Factory*, initiatives like the Global Black Women's Non-Fiction Manuscript Prize, the African Women's Non-fiction Writing and Editing Workshops all form part of our mission to nurture and encourage more Black women to create critical, thoughtful, and inspiring non-fiction works.

Apply today for a chance to join this enriching retreat! Know someone who might be interested? Share this with them. More information on the workshop and application guidelines can be found on our website. Applications close May 31st, 2024.

\$20,000 Global Black Women's Non-Fiction Manuscript Prize

As part of its mission as a global Black publishing house connecting Africa and the African diaspora, Cassava Republic Press's is proud to announce the launch of their inaugural

\$20,000 Global Black Women's Non-Fiction Manuscript Prize dedicated to exceptional works by Black women (cis, trans and genderqueer). The prize represents a first in the world of Black women's letters, not only by virtue of its global scope, but also its non-fiction focus, and its generous prize value. Their mission is to publish emerging and established Black women writers and thinkers from across the world, focusing on critical ideas across time and space.

At the heart of this prize lies a deep commitment to amplifying the long tradition of Black women writers as knowledge-makers and critical thinkers. We take seriously Black South African feminist scholar and writer Desiree Lewis' observation that 'publishers have tended to focus on black women's fictional and autobiographical writing, or on poetry. This tends to be symptomatic of a publishing and reading/marketing stereotype about black women in the public sphere being "interesting" mainly as entertainers, storytellers, or so-called "creatives," rather than as knowledge-makers and critical thinkers.'

'We take immense pride in launching the Global Black Women's Non-Fiction Manuscript Prize as we take steps to addressing a long-overlooked gap in the literary world. The prize builds on the long tradition of Black women writers as theorists and intellectuals, and provide a platform for a range of writers from Africa and the Afro-diaspora to follow in the footsteps of luminaries such as Anna Julia Cooper, Amy Jacques Garvey, Claudia Jones, Noni Jabavu, Audre Lorde, Ellen Khuzwayo, May Ayim, Toni Morrison and bell hooks, who have come before.'

The Prize

The winner of the Global Black Women's Non-Fiction Manuscript Prize will receive a \$20,000 advance and a publishing contract with Cassava Republic Press.

Two runner-up writers will each receive a \$5000 advance and publication by Cassava Republic Press bringing the total prize value up to \$30,000.

The Judges

The judges for the prize are: the celebrated, award-winning author, academic and Booker Prize recipient, Bernardine Evaristo as Chair of judges, and joining her are: Sylvia Tamale, a prominent Ugandan feminist, legal scholar, and human rights activist; Natalie Baszile,

distinguished African-American author and film-maker; Carole Boyce Davies, renowned Caribbean-American feminist, professor and literary scholar; and acclaimed Zimbabwean-South African essayist, novelist, and scholar, Panashe Chigumadzi.

Their combined experience and expertise in literature and knowledge-making underscore a deliberate commitment to recognising the diverse voices and contributions of Black women writers, marking a crucial step in addressing the historical underrepresentation – particularly in the non-fiction sphere. You can read more [here](#).

“This is a groundbreaking prize which will support, champion and elevate the writings of Black women who are interested in expanding the universe of ideas, the imagination and critical thinking, and I am overjoyed to be chairing such an illustrious panel of leading intellectuals.”

What We Are Looking For

We are looking to publish and champion Black women writers who bridge the gap between “creativity” and “theory” with work that is both rigorous and beautiful, creative and thoughtful.

We are not an academic publisher, but welcome submissions from academics writing for a mainstream audience. Our goal is to amplify and unearth the critical ideas that might otherwise remain unpublished or confined to academic circles or smaller audiences. Importantly, in seeking creative critical writing and knowledge-making for a broad audience, we welcome writing that will challenge and excite our readers.

We do not accept straightforward memoirs, but manuscripts that incorporate theory with personal essays/experiences within a broader context are welcome.

We are asking for five sample chapters and a pitch letter, which should include a synopsis and a full outline of all chapters.

Longlisted authors will then be given a week to submit full manuscripts.

Applications close at 23:59GMT on June 30th 2024.

Eligibility

The manuscript prize is open to Black women writers aged 18 and over living anywhere in the world.

The manuscript prize is made possible by the generous support of Alitheia Capital, the largest woman-owned impact investing private equity firm in Africa, and Open Society Foundation Africa

To apply, visit: https://cassavarepublic.biz/african-womens-writers-workshop/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1nAihz7lfse-S1jwAlSaQQYr7K-4XUZ-Q4MrDfMUPJLIAR1ynlnOOuqaA_aem_AbI5ikn8az7W7jL3U44THHpH9UPYg9uq3oX1_-y-rlf3NRXibqwxw0IjlTLKBmIAlemnJrV4DyrY83C69-BzsaigW

Submit To Africa Migration Report: Poetry Anthology

Submissions are now open to the poetry anthology Africa Migration Report: an Anthology of Poems, organized by Forced Migration and The Arts in collaboration with indie publisher CivicLeicester and migrant collective Regularise. The theme is African Migration and the deadline is May 25.

Forced Migration and The Arts is a global network that brings together people with lived experience of forced migration, refugee and non-refugee artists, academics and activists from around the world. The provisional title of the anthology, Africa Migration Report: an Anthology of Poems, is inspired by the second edition of the Africa Migration Report published by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

People on the African continent have a long history of experience with migration, whether this includes individuals or communities moving from one place to another in search of pasture for their livestock or in search of prospects such as education, employment, escape from climate change, refuge from war, conflict, persecution, etc. These movements have been taking place over time and within and across countries, on the continent and beyond, and are driven by many reasons.

Many of the people who have made these journeys have had certain experiences and encounters before deciding to move, while on the move, and when they arrive at their

destinations. Families and communities also have stories about relatives, friends and community members who moved and then returned or did not return.

The Africa Migration Report: an Anthology of Poems is inviting poems exploring these themes and related ones. Poems that explore the personal, familial, communal, national, continental, intercontinental, transnational, past, present and possible futures of African migration across time and space, in and around this world and beyond, are welcome.

Submission Guidelines:

Poems should be 40 lines or less, and short fiction, 100 words or less.

The poems and short fiction should be on the theme, African Migration.

Submissions must be in English. In the case of translated work, it is the translator's responsibility to obtain permission from the copyright holder of the original work.

If submitting a poem or short fiction which has been previously published, please give details of where it has appeared and confirm that you are the copyright holder.

Ideally submissions will be typed single-spaced and submitted either in the body of an email or as a .doc attachment.

Please include a short biography of 50 words or less. This will be included in the anthology if your poem is accepted.

You may submit a maximum of three poems or three pieces of short fiction or a combination of poems and short fiction. You do not have to submit all three at the same time, but the editors can only consider a maximum of three submissions.

Submissions are welcome from writers of all ages, based anywhere in the world.

Submit poems to forcedmigrationandthearts@gmail.com.

Deadline: May 25, 2024, 12 PM



RAYMOND ACKERMAN ACADEMY OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME(RAA-ED)

The Raymond Ackerman Academy of Entrepreneurial Development Programme (RAA-ED) invites applications from youth residing in South Africa and SADC countries of Southern Africa. RAA-ED is a National Programme delivered online with practical workshops to apply knowledge in your early- stage business. After the 6-month programme, there is a one-year optional mentoring programme. This programme aims to provide students with the and skills to better enhance their entrepreneurial skills for better employment opportunities or develop viable business ventures.

Requirements:

- 18-35 years (youth programme)
- Open to Youth Residing in South African & SADC
- Have a business idea or in start up

Programme duration:

Full time, 6 months

For enquiries contact:

011 559 5583 / adminraa@uj.ac.za

Closing date for applications:

15 June 2024



<https://forms.gle/cpkT4gCSX3MJzVL89>

Scan the QR Code to apply.



**THE BUSINESS
of REIMAGINING
YOUR FUTURE**