



Brave & Brilliant Literary Submission Information Guide

Thank you for your interest in the Brave & Brilliant literary series!

Submissions to the Brave & Brilliant literary series are open Monday, September 1 to Wednesday, October 15, 2025. Manuscripts submitted during this period will be considered for publication in 2028 and later.

Only those authors whose work has been selected for further consideration or for publication will be contacted. The Press is unable to provide feedback on manuscripts that have not been selected for publication.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Read this complete submission information guide.
- Download and complete the Literary Prospectus Form.
- Submit your Literary Prospectus Form, Literary CV, and manuscript to the Press via the google form at [THIS LINK](#).

TECH TIP: If you encounter technical issues while trying to complete the literary prospectus form, copy/paste the questions into a new Word file.

TECH TIP: If your manuscript is too large to submit via the google form, upload it to a file sharing service like Dropbox or Onedrive, copy/paste the link into a Word file, and upload to the manuscript field. The link must not expire before Monday, November 3, 2025. Ensure that anyone with the link may download the file.

TECH TIP: If you are unable to use the google form to make your submission, or unable to successfully upload your files, please complete the Literary Submission Form Checklist in lieu of the form, and email your checklist, prospectus form, literary CV, and full manuscript to braveandbrilliant@ucalgary.ca. Please title your email "[Author Name] Email Submission in Lieu of Form."

FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS

Please name your files as follows, using your preferred author name as it appears on the title page of your manuscript:

- [Author name] Prospectus Form
- [Author name] Literary CV
- [Author name] Manuscript

Literary CV:

- Please format your Literary CV as you see fit, including such information as a list of relevant publications, performances, professional work, or volunteer service as you deem appropriate. There is no page minimum or limit. Please include your name and contact information, but do not include any other sensitive personal information on your CV.
- If you are an early career author and do not have a Literary CV, you are welcome to write a short paragraph explaining your literary interests.

Literary Prospectus Form:

- If you encounter technical issues while trying to complete the Literary Prospectus Form, please copy/paste the questions into a new Word file so that you can write your answers more easily.

Manuscript formatting:

- Please include a title page with the title of your manuscript and your author name.
- Please do not include any other contact information or other sensitive personal information anywhere on your manuscript (this refers to personal data, not to fictionalized autobiographical details you may have included in your literary work).
- Please submit your manuscript as a single file in Word or PDF format. If you are a Pages or Google Docs user, please convert your file to PDF.
- A table of contents is not required. If you include one, please ensure that it matches the page numbers on your manuscript.
- You are not required to add headers or footers, nor to paginate your manuscript.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

General:

- The Press only accepts submissions from Canadian citizens and permanent residents to the Brave & Brilliant series per the Canada Council of the Arts' funding requirements.
- Authors of any career stage are welcome to submit to this series.
- The Press only considers complete manuscripts, and cannot consider pitches or draft samples in lieu of a complete manuscript. Please consider submitting in the future if your manuscript is not yet complete.
- The Press considers simultaneous submissions. Please notify the Press if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere before the end of May 2026. Please do so by emailing braveandbrilliant@ucalgary.ca with the subject line "[Author name] Simultaneous Submission Cancellation."
- Only those authors whose work has been selected for further consideration or for publication will be contacted. The Press is unable to provide feedback on manuscripts that have not been selected for publication. Authors may expect to learn if their manuscript has been accepted for publication by the end of May 2026. The Press cannot provide updates on the evaluation process to individual authors.
- The Press receives more submissions than can be published in the series. Authors whose work is not accepted for publication are welcome to submit the same manuscript, an updated version of the manuscript, or a different manuscript to the Press in the future.

Original Content:

- Submissions must contain no more than 30% previously published material.
- Submissions must be the original work of the author or creative team submitting the manuscript.
- Manuscripts prepared by text-generating or image-generating programs colloquially known as "AI" are not eligible for consideration.

- If you have used such a program as part of your writing process, please describe the process in detail on your Literary Prospectus Form in your own words so that the Press can determine whether your submission is eligible for consideration.
- If you have reproduced any third-party materials in your manuscript (meaning anything not prepared originally by you, such as text quotations, photographs, paintings, and so on), you must:
 - Provide a complete bibliographic record of such materials, including any third-party works in the public domain.
 - For works not in the public domain, have a reasonable expectation that the rights holders of such materials would grant you the right to reproduce the materials should your manuscript be accepted for publication.
 - Understand that UCalgary Press authors are responsible for securing any necessary permissions and paying any permissions fees to rights holders should their manuscript be accepted for publication.
 - Be prepared to remove any third-party materials from your manuscript for which you cannot obtain reproduction permissions, should your manuscript be accepted for publication.

Genre:

Authors are encouraged to review the books published in this series when preparing a submission. The Brave & Brilliant series page may be found at [THIS LINK](#).

Types of work accepted for consideration:

- The Press invites the submission of poetry, fiction, plays, cross-genre works, or other literary genres not listed.
- “Genre fiction” with a strong “Brave & Brilliant” literary component may be submitted. However, works of traditional genre fiction (ex. romance, sci-fi, fantasy, or detective fiction) are best suited to other publishers specializing in these areas.
- Works of highly literary and creative non-fiction and highly literary and creative autobiographies may be submitted. Authors of research-based non-fiction intended for a general audience may consider Bighorn Books, UCalgary Press’ non-fiction imprint.
- The Press welcomes the submission of literary works with a visual component, such as graphic novels, visual poetry, or fiction or poetry manuscripts that include visual elements such as illustrations of photographs. If you submit a work with a visual component, please note on your Literary Prospectus Form whether the work may be reproduced in black and white, or if colour is a necessary component of the work.
- The Press may only consider manuscripts that can be reproduced in standard printed and electronic book formats. However, authors who wish to propose additional supplementary online content such as audio or visual recordings may note this on their Literary Prospectus Form.

Types of work not accepted for consideration:

- Sequels to books released by other publishers.
- Reprints of previously published books.
- Mass market fiction and non-fiction, including general how-to books, books on life-coaching, gift books, cookbooks, and so on.
- Other works that could not reasonably be considered relevant to the series.

The purpose of this list is to help authors to use their time in their own best interest. As with all submissions to the series, the Press is unable to provide feedback on manuscripts not selected for publication, and will not notify authors if their submissions fall outside the series mandate.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For manuscripts selected for publication, the Press typically:

- Arranges editing, copyediting, design, printing, and worldwide distribution of the book in print and electronic formats.
- Shares rich book listings and promotes the book to vendors, booksellers, and libraries.
- Provides marketing support, including presentation to media for consideration for review and coverage, inclusion in advertising and promotional campaigns, award submissions, display at book fairs, and beyond.
- Please note that the Press is not able to provide broad event planning support, arrange book tours, or finance author travel.

These details are for general information only and subject to change without notice.

Authors whose manuscripts are selected for publication receive a letter of agreement detailing the rights and obligations of the Press and the author. Authors are encouraged to ask the Press any questions they might have regarding the editing, design, production, and marketing details covered in their letter of agreement at that time. The Press is unable to provide further general information regarding these details to prospective authors in advance of their manuscript being accepted for publication.

Questions? Email: braveandbrilliant@ucalgary.ca