

TLC ONLINE WRITERS' DAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Thank yous, round-up and TLC Pen Factor Announcement

The TLC Pen Factor lists will be uploaded to the TLC website

TRANSCRIPT

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Hello everyone I can see people joining this final session of the TLC Online Writers' Day 2021.

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We're in the final stretch, I promise we won't keep you much longer and then you can go off and either finish that novel, or go and have a nap can have some food or do whatever you need to spend the rest of your Saturday.

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We hope you had an inspiring day, we really hope you've enjoyed yourselves, and thank you so much for being part of our first ever TLC online writers day.

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This has been a learning experience for us a bit of a learning curve in the morning but we hope we brought it back.

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And we really hope that you've enjoyed all of your sessions so the seminars with our speakers in the morning and your breakout sessions in the afternoon, we've done a little bit of writing, and a little bit of learning about pitching your work, we're

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really grateful to all of you for joining us. So, in this final session I'm just here to round up to say some thank yous.

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The first thank yous I need to make out to all of our incredible speakers today.

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We have been so inspired by them. I hope you have to.

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Please remember everything. Make sure that any notes you've made in your notebooks I think that you look back how often stick away in a drawer somewhere.

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And we hope that you feel inspired and in the morning, we ran a little poll, to ask you about how you're feeling about your work on your screen now you should see

another poll, which is asking you how confident, do you feel now at the end of the day,

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be really grateful if you could just take a couple of seconds to fill out that poll.

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Thank you. Well that poll is going I'll give you a few more minutes to answer. And shortly. I will be sharing screen for the very final presentation of the day which is very exciting, the TLC pen factor announcement.

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We could have just put it up on the website but we thought we'd leave you in suspense until the very end of the day. One thing to note before we do that is that all of your recorded sessions will be uploaded to the video library, which you can access

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through the portal.

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The buy links to the bookshop.org page where you can buy books by all of the speakers from today is a link that supports independent bookshops around the UK so if you would like to make any purchases please do buy through that link to support your independent

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bookshop.

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And the other thing that I do need to say now is to the TLC team, which is Joe Sedwick and Nelima Begum my incredible colleagues, we are a very small team, it's just three of us, but they have been absolutely incredible.

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And also to Pynto, Tamsin at Pynto who built the portal for us, which just looks like a web page but actually has been weeks of building and testing and double testing, despite which we did have a glitch this morning, and I can only apologize for that.

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We are working hard on a special thank you to all of you for bearing with us through that glitch, and a little package of gifts that we're going to give so look out for that.

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Once this webinar ends, a little survey will pop up on your screen. I think there are only 10 or 12 questions, it should only take a few minutes, so please please do fill

out that survey, we, we rely on your feedback to make sure that what we're offering

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is valuable to writers to see what the best demand for continuing to do what events like this particularly here where this is the first time we're trying this format.

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I'm going to end the poll now.

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Here we go.

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So thank you very much for filling that out, and I'm going to share the screen, so that we can.

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If it works.

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Of course this is the point where, why should my screen share probably won't work, but we will try our best.

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Okay, here we go. Okay, I can see that it's working.

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Right.

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Haha. Hey guys.

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It is time to present the TLC pen factor

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Astonishingly 130 of you submitted your work to the TLC pen factor 2021, the TLC pen factor competition has been going, as long as the writers day has been going, and each year we have amazing entries, and we have a gorgeous set of alumni, some of whom

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you can see on the screen now who go on to secure fantastic publishing deals at the writers that you can see in the video library please do go and check out the video library after this event, and you can hear from some of our previous TLC pen back to

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find this reading from their published or soon to be published works, all of which I encourage you to go by, because as a reminder, as well as being writers, we are also readers, and we must be supporters of the literary community as writers I think it's

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important that we uplift each other.

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You know champion each other's books are critically by each other's books, because we need to show that there is value in US buying and borrowing books by writers to keep, keep publishers supporting them and to keep publishing as wide a range of voices

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as possible. So here are some of our wonderful alumni.

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Okay. The moment of truth, how we have arrived at a longest shortlist and winner.

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It's been a journey because with 130 submissions.

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And it's been a challenge, and we have to say that the judges have all said that the quality was incredibly high, which I know all judges say, but with genuine is true.

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So without further ado, providing the slide works.

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Here we go.

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Our long list, I will read out all of your names and titles, and this will be published on the website, so don't worry you will get your recognition, but this is the first time you're hearing about it so long list.

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Congratulations to Kate Beales to Julie Bull to Hayley Dunning to Shona Ray Ferguson, to Janey Harvey, to Lynn Herbert to Julie Holden, to Kit Jenkin to Diane Lemieux.

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and further congratulations as well to Jane Mansour, to Jeffrey Manton. Sarah Martin. Sue Mitchinson. Hannah Mole, Polly Roberts, Eloise Stevens, Michelle Walshe.

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Congratulations. I hope there are jubinations happening at home.

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A highly commended, which we don't always feature, but we decided was worth doing because the shortlist was hard to arrive at we had an unlimited spaces and we felt that all of these writers deserve recognition on a special highly commended list this

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year, the TLC pen factor 2021 are highly commended writers are Lerah Mae Barcenilla, Freya Bromley, Sheila Chapman, and Carol Farrelly.

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And now

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our incredible shortlist taken from 130 amazing submissions, a huge congratulations to these writers.

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This was much discussed, there was a lot of sifting and thinking and reordering, and all of you have really deserved your place on this shortlist and we know that we will be seeing and hearing from you, into the future.

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So our hugest congratulations TLC pen factor 2021 shortlisted writers, Miriam Balenescu.

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Kerry James Clark, Jill Dobson, Moyette Gibbons, Jessica Harneyford, and Faiza Hasan, big congratulations and clapping, it feels very strange doing this in a webinar where I can't see all your faces, but I hope everybody is applauding wildly.

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And then, of course, is the moment to declare our winner of the TLC Pen factor, 2021.

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The winner is Jill Dobson with her incredible manuscript, The Woman in the House Next Door. Congratulations, Jill.

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I'm going to read a little statement from our judges.

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After which I'm going to embarrass Jill terribly pick her out from the webinar and hopefully hear from her directly so that you can all hear from Jill.

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So prepare yourself Jill.

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These were our judges. The Incredible. Leslie Gardner from Artellus, Ailah Ahmed from Little Brown, Davinia Andrew Lynch from Andlyn and Hattie Grunewald who some of you that would have seen in

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the earlier session, with the Blair Partnership.

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And the judges statement which I will read out.

This year's finalists showcased an enormous amount of talent. We had the pleasure of being transported through time, across a breadth of genres, including near future sci-fi, experimental literary fiction

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and women's commercial fiction. Tackling big themes like loneliness mortality, mental health, and infertility, the potential of this group of authors was exciting, but the standard of their storytelling, made for a hugely difficult decision.

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However, it soon became clear that one of these authors' assured, and accomplished writing style could not be ignored.

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Combined with a plot that was thoroughly intriguing, a setting in a time and place that was unexpected and characters who immediately caught the judges attention.

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We soon realized there was one natural winner. Jill Dobson is absolutely a writer to watch.

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You heard it here first.

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And a special thank you to our prize partners who've contributed so that we can prepare an amazing prize package worth over 2000 pounds for Jill, and our prize partners are: spread the word writing magazine, Arvon, the Royal Society of literature and create think

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do.

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And the final but most important thanks goes to all of you for being here for participating,

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Let me try and stop sharing here.

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And most importantly for trusting us with your work, and for having faith in your work as well. It takes courage to have faith in what you're writing.

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And we commend you for having that faith, and we encourage you to continue having that faith in your writing.

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So, I am going to, if I can find Jill, to hear from Jill.

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How do I do this is the question.

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Jill. Jill Dobson if you are there, I think I might need you to raise your hand.

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Because I don't know how to find you.

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Are you there Jill, Are you able to raise your hand for us.

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I should be or if you can press the raise hand button Jill if you're there.

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Hand is raised.

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I can't figure out how to go.

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Jill.

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All you that Jill. Yes, I'm here. Hello, Jill.

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Hello everyone.

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Hello. Congratulations. Thank you. I'm just reading slowly here.

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Gosh.

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Well this this is absolutely amazing news, gosh, I've had such a long journey with the woman in the house next door which I started researching and writing over 10 years ago.

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And, as you all know, the process of putting your work out there to publishers and agents, and you're not receiving any sort of feedback that how disheartening that can be, and to get any recognition and to get validation means so much, and to get an

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award like this is just wonderful beyond words which is saying a lot for writer, so an immense thank you to a key and the judges and also to all the speakers and the TLC TLC team for organizing this event which is a normal year would mean a big trip down

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to London and excitement which is currently illegal for me. Some.

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Thank you so much and actually I think your dog really really wants to walk now I yeah he's banging on the door I do apologize for this disruption perils of online events.

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We wanted to end with Jill's words because this event as what everything that the literary consultancy does is about the writers we always bring it back to the writers and the value of the writers and the value of your stories, and we encourage you all

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to please keep dreaming and writing and scheming and keeping storytellers and everything that you do.

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We will send a follow up email with some further instructions, please, of course, keep an eye on everything else that we are doing. We're trying really hard to program as many interesting things for writers as possible, and do also look out for our being

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a writer membership program launched last year. In May, it is a, the only UK platform, which focuses on creativity and resilience for writers you'll find it on our website.

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But to everybody, thank you so much for attending. We have really enjoyed being with you today.

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We're finishing slightly ahead of time which I hope no one feels shortchanged by an extra five minutes, but it's an extra five minutes where you could maybe go off and do a sneaky bit of writing or go straight to bed and have an apple do whatever you

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need to do, but thank you and I can see everybody in the chat being. Wonderful. Remember the forum will stay open.

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So please keep leaving comments there will upload all of the resources and recommended links up there in the coming days.

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And all that remains for me to say is just the sincerest heartfelt thanks for all of you for being part of the TLC online writers day. And we're going to end the TLC online writers day with again congratulations to Jill, and thank you to all of you.