



Three Cavendish Literary Festival Authors Named to 2026 Giller Prize Longlist

CAVENDISH, PEI, September 10, 2026 – Three authors appearing at the 2026 Cavendish Literary Festival have been named to the prestigious 2026 Giller Prize longlist, bringing three of Canada's most celebrated literary voices to Prince Edward Island this September.

Tara Gereaux, Nicholas Herring and Wayne Johnston are among just fourteen Canadian authors selected for this year's Giller Prize longlist from more than 140 works of fiction submitted by publishers across Canada.

The three authors will each take the stage during the Cavendish Literary Festival, taking place September 24 to 27 in Cavendish and surrounding communities on Prince Edward Island.

Tara Gereaux has been longlisted for her novel *Wild People Quiet*, published by Scribner Canada. Festival audiences can hear from Tara on Sunday, September 27, at the Watermark Theatre. The 3 p.m. event will feature Tara in conversation, with author and PEI Poet Laureate Bren Simmers opening the session and Laurie Brinklow and Laura Chapin moderating. Gereaux is also one of the Indigenous voices featured in this year's festival programming, alongside acclaimed author Amanda Peters.

Prince Edward Island author Nicholas Herring has been longlisted for his forthcoming novel *Your Breath in Charcoal*, published by Goose Lane Editions. Herring will open the Linwood Barclay Spotlight session on Saturday, September 26. In conversation with Keir Lowther, Nicholas will discuss *Your Breath in Charcoal*, a story rooted in Prince Edward Island that follows a young Islander searching for meaning, connection and identity as he journeys westward and encounters friendship, love, madness and loss.

Acclaimed Canadian author Wayne Johnston has been longlisted for *The Novice of Holloway Hall*, published by Knopf Canada. Wayne will appear at the Watermark Theatre on Friday, September 25, from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. in conversation with bestselling author Amy Stuart, Johnston will take festival audiences inside his latest work and his celebrated career as one of Canada's most recognized literary voices.

The Giller Prize is one of Canada's leading literary prizes for fiction. The 2026 longlist was announced September 8 and, for the first time in the prize's history, was selected by a pan-Canadian jury of independent booksellers. The 2026 shortlist will be announced October 5.

Tickets for individual author presentations, workshops and festival events are available now at cavendishliteraryfestival.com.

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About the Cavendish Literary Festival

The Cavendish Literary Festival is a multi-day celebration of books, writers and storytelling held in Cavendish, Prince Edward Island. The festival brings together acclaimed and emerging Canadian voices for author conversations, readings, workshops and special events while celebrating the Island's rich literary heritage and creative community.

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