



# RENARD PRESS

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## *PRESS RELEASE*

Date: 21st March 2023

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### *RENARD PRESS JOINS FORCES WITH THE CURAE PRIZE TO PRODUCE ANTHOLOGY OF WRITING BY WRITER-CARERS.*

- An anthology arising from the inaugural Curae Prize for writers who are carers.
- Stemming from a project widely praised for its promotion of inclusivity and access.
- Spearheaded by acclaimed writer and supporter of writers Anna Vaught.
- Supported by a huge body of writers and advocates.

Renard Press is thrilled to announce that it has acquired world rights to the resulting anthology of shortlisted work from the inaugural Curae Prize. The prize was established by Anna Vaught, who has both a novel (*The Zebra and Lord Jones*) and a creative-writing guide (*The Alchemy*) out with Renard this year. There are in the region of 7 million unpaid carers in the UK alone, and Vaught developed the prize to provide a platform for writer-carers. The shortlist will be announced in May, and the book will be published in October.

#### *Synopsis:*

There are around 7 million carers in the UK alone – unpaid people who look after someone who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, mental health problem or addiction and cannot cope without support.

The Curae Prize was established in 2022 to offer a platform to these writer-carers, offering creative focus and access to the publishing industry. Attracting a wealth of extraordinary submissions, the inaugural prize has been widely praised for its inclusivity and spotlighting of neglected talent, and this anthology celebrates the works that made it on to the shortlist.

#### About the Project Leader:

Anna Vaught is an English teacher, Creative Writing teacher, mentor, editor and author of several books, including *Saving Lucia*, *Famished*, *Ravished*, *The Zebra and Lord*



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*Jones, The Alchemy* and *These Envoys of Beauty*. Her short creative works and features have been widely published, and she has written for the national press and has had a column with *The Bookseller* and *Msllexia*. In 2022 Anna launched The Curae, a new literary prize for carers. Anna is also a guest university lecturer, a tutor for Jericho Writers, and volunteers with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. She is the mother of three sons, comes from a large Welsh family and lives in Wiltshire.

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