



ISBN: 978-1-80447-059-6

Paperback • 208pp • £10

BIC: DQ, FYB 129 x 198 mm

28TH NOVEMBER 2023

WORLD ENGLISH

SIMILAR TITLES:

9781913724450
£7.999781913724979
£7.99

THE CURAE

AN ANTHOLOGY FROM THE INAUGURAL CURAE PRIZE

INTRODUCTION BY ANNA VAUGHT

- 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.

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 Jones*, *These Envoys of Beauty* and *The Alchemy*. 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 Prize, 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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Registered company number: 12559643

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