

GENERAL NONFICTION

Definition: This category includes nonfictional works dealing with or offering opinions or conjectures about facts and reality. General Nonfiction includes, but is not limited to, such topics as humor, commentary, travel writing, historical accounts, personal narrative, memoirs, and biography. Two types of works comprise this category –books of nonfiction, and multi-author anthologies/single-author collections of nonfiction. To qualify for judging, books must have a minimum of 40,000 words, and anthologies/collections must have a minimum of three individual pieces and a total of at least 40,000 words.

Judging Guideline: Entries in General Nonfiction must include significant themes, characters, situations, or other content about women or sapphically aligned nonbinary people who are romantically and/or sexually attracted to women or sapphically aligned nonbinary people. Individual pieces in the anthology/collection should be self-contained but contribute to the work’s overall quality. For GCLS purposes, anthologies/collections devoted to poetry should not be entered in this category but in Poetry.

Evaluation Items:

1. Thinking back on the GOLDIE entry you are about to judge, what were your overall impressions, positive and/or negative?

Using a 10-point scale where “1” means you “Totally Disagree” and “10” means you “Totally Agree,” please indicate how much you disagree or agree that each of the following statements describes this GOLDIE entry.

2. This work of nonfiction has a compelling premise that draws readers in and makes them want to read further.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

3. This work of nonfiction broadens the reader’s perspective via fresh, original content that informs, educates, and/or entertains.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

4. This work of nonfiction is clearly organized and stays appropriately on target.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

5. This work of nonfiction is written in an engaging style. The writing flows smoothly, with a sufficient variety of sentence structure and length; the language is fresh, vivid, and original; word choices are effective and fit the style, tone, and mood of the work; etc.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

6. This work of nonfiction has a distinct sense of time and place that skillfully captures the mood, tone, and setting of the people, situations, and events described.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

7. This work of nonfiction appears well researched and/or authentically sourced in a manner consistent with its overall theme, style, and/or approach.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

8. This work of nonfiction is virtually free of such distractions as factual errors, incorrect spelling, poor punctuation and grammar, and paragraph structures that don't make sense.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

9. This work of nonfiction has elements (themes, commentary, personal narratives, evocative writing, etc.) that will linger in a reader's mind long after the work is finished.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

10. This work of nonfiction includes significant themes, commentary, personal narratives, and/or other content about women who are attracted to other women or sapphic individuals.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

11. Characters of various races, classes, cultures, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, etc., portrayed in this work are presented in ways that avoid offensive stereotypes.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

12. **FOR BOOKS:** This GOLDIE nominee is a splendid example of high-quality books in the **Nonfiction** category.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

13. **FOR ANTHOLOGIES/COLLECTIONS:** This GOLDIE nominee is a splendid example of high-quality anthologies/collections in the **Nonfiction** category.

Totally Disagree									Totally Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

14. Please summarize your overall thoughts about this work. Constructive criticisms, if any, would be especially helpful. An edited version of your insights and those of other judges—absent any identification— may be shared with the author/editor/complier(s).