

ME/ADW

5 May, 1970

W.L. Webb Esq.,
Guardian,
3 Cross Street,
Manchester 2.

Dear Bill,

Booker Prize 1971

We have had partial success in the manner of selecting judges. Not, I fear, the way you suggested (i.e. suggestions made by the panel of the previous year) but that literary editors should be invited to nominate potential judges. Would you be prepared to do this? There is a meeting in two weeks time to discuss judges, and it would be very useful if I could have your suggestions by then. The categories as you know that have existed until now have been loosely:

Literary Editor, Chairman
Writer
Personality
Academic
A Book Trade Person

But if you feel it would be wise I am sure the categories could be changed. Forgive me for asking you like this, but I am sure it is a step in the right direction.

It was lovely to see you in the office briefly, I am only sorry that it was all so chaotic, and only hope that when you are in London it might be possible to meet at slightly more leisure. It was marvellous to see all the glorious column inches in the Guardian on Booker and even Miscellany was a less bitter pill to swallow thus blanketed. Thank you so much.

Yours ever,

Marilyn Edwards