

Quotes from Authors Who Know

To inspire our writing and highlight our 2023 Anthology Sections

Fiction: (we have 2 quotes for this section; permission granted by both authors' agents)

A short story is the ultimate close-up magic trick – a couple of thousand words to take you around the universe or break your heart.

– Neil Gaiman

Award winning fantasy author, *The Sandman* and *Good Omens*, with Terry Pratchett

I love short stories because I believe they are the way we live. They are what our friends tell us, in their pain and joy, their passion and rage, their yearning and their cry against injustice.

– Andre Dubus

Short story writer and essayist, *House of Sand and Fog*

Essay: (permission granted by author's agent)

Imagine a type of writing so hard to define its very name means a trial, effort or attempt. An ancient form with an eye on the future, a genre poised between tradition and experiment. The essay wants above all to wander, but also to arrive at symmetry and wholeness; it nurses competing urges to integrity and disarray, perfection and fragmentation, confession and invention.

– Brian Dillon

Essayist and memoir writer, *The Dark Room* and *Essayism*

Poetry: (permission granted by author)

*To me, a poem is a condensed piece of language in which the poet works every single word – **examines** every single word – with great care. It is like a finely tuned exploration that connects something micro with something macro – something personal with something universal – something day to day with something cosmic.*

– Jacqueline Suskin

Street poet and GLVWG February meeting presenter