



Winning, Highly Commended &
Commended
Entries

5-7 Age Category

The 19th Elmbridge Literary Competition 2024

FAME

Reputation is an idle and most false imposition, oft got without merit and lost without deserving.

William Shakespeare

For some, it is a lifetime's pursuit, often slipping through their grasp while others see it fall into their hands by mere chance. However achieved, through talent or luck, Fame, can be an ill-fated prize.

The 19th Elmbridge Literary Competition, run in partnership by The R C Sherriff Trust and Elmbridge Borough Council, asked for short stories and poems on the theme of the double-edged sword that is 'FAME'.

Previous Competition Themes:

2005:	Cook Up A Story
2006:	On My Way
2007:	A Life In Colour
2008:	Once Upon A Time
2009:	A Symphony of Life
2010:	The Elmbridge 100
2011:	Breaking The Barrier
2012:	A Dickens of A Christmas
2013:	One Act Radio Play
2014:	Dear Diary
2015:	Flights of Fantasy
2016:	Love
2017:	Luck
2018:	A Shiver Down The Spine/Things That Go Bump In The Night
2019/20:	New World
2021:	Music
2022:	Enigma
2023:	The Road

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Short Story Category

1st Place Story: **The Girl of Fame**
Chimdiuto Anagbado

Evelyn is a shy 8-year-old girl from a little village in the hills of cape town where she lived with her parents. They were extremely poor and can only afford small food. Evelyn does not go to school; all she does is borrow books from the local library and read at home. She has read so many books and is very knowledgeable about science, geography, and history.

Evelyn was truly smart and always dreamt of being famous. One day, she thought to herself, I could make friends with my neighbours (Lexi, Lomie and Silvia) who attend the local school so that I could see what they do and study together with them. The next day after school hours, she walked to her neighbour's house and asked them if she could study with them. They said yes of course, come in and do our homework with us. We have geography and maths assignments today.

Evelyn took the geography booklet and studied with them. They were surprised at how knowledgeable she was and asked why she was not attending school. She told them her parents could not afford the school fees. Evelyn asked if they could get her a copy of their homework each day. They said they would talk to their teacher Mrs Tompolo for an extra copy. Evelyn was incredibly happy.

When Lexi, Lomie and Silvia got to school the next day, they submitted their homework and told their teacher about Evelyn. They also told her how smart Evelyn is, but her parents can't afford the school fees.

As Evelyn and her neighbours continued to study together, they became friends. Evelyn's parents were worried, at her involvement with the studies and told her to stop to avoid disappointment and heartbreak.

Evelyn was incredibly sad and told her friends that she would have to stop studying with them. Her friends feeling so sorry for her asked her to do history assignment with them for the last time. The assignment was about the freedom of Nelson Mandela. Oh! how I love this topic, Evelyn said. She has read so much about Nelson Mandela and the apartheid. She wrote her own work and gave to her friend to submit.

When they got to school the next day, they gave Mrs Tompolo Evelyn's history work. She was extremely impressed with the detailed work and pleased at how

knowledgeable Evelyn. She used her work as an example in the class. She told them she would like to visit Evelyn but before that she would have a discussion with the principal for scholarship. Mrs Tompolo presented Evelyn's homework to the principal, and she was stunned at the detailed work of Evelyn and agreed to a scholarship.

Mrs Tompolo went to Evelyns house and told her parents about the scholarship. Evelyn who was listening, jumped up with joy and hugged both her parents and Mrs Tompolo.

Evelyn started school the following week and was famous for her history work.

2nd Place Story: Famous By Accident

Belle Mitchell-Ford

There was once a girl called Lola. Lola was 6 years old and lived in a town called Stripetown in the Kingdom of Zebrania.

One day she was walking past the castle of the King of Zebrania and she saw a robber trying to steal the King's crown. Lola rushed into the castle to get the guards to stop the robber. The guards chased the robber all around the castle gardens and stopped him getting into the castle and taking the crown.

The king made a big announcement to tell the people of Zebrania that Lola was the hero that stopped the robbery of the crown. Lola was proud and so was her family. The next day Lola was on the front page of the newspapers and on the television news. Suddenly everyone in Zebrania knew about Lola. Later that day she was coming home from school and everyone kept shouting her name and asking to take photos with her. Lola felt like a star and loved it.

At the weekend Lola went for lunch with her parents and her older brother to celebrate what she had done. But at the restaurant she couldn't enjoy the meal because so many people recognised her and kept asking for her autograph. All she wanted to do was have a nice time with her family but the people would not leave her alone. It made her scared.

Later that weekend her dad got a call from Lola's school to say that Lola could not come to school next week because they thought Lola being there would stop the other boys and girls from learning because all they would want to do would be to talk to Lola. Lola loved school and seeing her friends so this made her sad.

All of the next week Lola could not leave her house because if she did, people kept coming up to her and wanting to get to know the famous little girl. Lola really did not like being famous. All she wanted to do was play with her friends like a normal girl. Lola thought the only person who could help was the king so she went back to the castle and asked him what he could do. The king thought and said he would tell the

people that anyone who bothered Lola would be put in the castle's dungeon for ten years.

After that everyone left Lola alone. They still knew who she was but didn't shout her name or ask for photos. Lola used to want to be famous like a singer or actor but after that thought it would be better to be someone that no-one knows like a doctor or vet!

3rd Place Story: Fame, A Lizard's Story

Brendan Bahoshy

There was once a lizard called Zane who didn't want to be famous but one day that is what happened.

Zane was shy and quiet. Zane was a chameleon who liked to hide by changing her skin colour to brown like the desert where she lived. She could almost be invisible!

One day she went hunting for insects all by herself but her parents were watching her at home. Suddenly, she saw something in the distance. She thought it was an insect so she grabbed it with her tongue but it hit her in the face with its long tail. It was not an insect but a deadly snake! She did a karate chop and a giant flip over the snake so the snake slithered away. She had just won an epic battle with the snake.

Zane's Mum and Dad saw this so they told everyone they knew and they told everyone they knew and they told everyone they knew until everyone in Africa knew. So that is how Zane got famous.

Zane did not like being famous at first, but then she got used to it. She used her fame to teach other lizards to protect themselves when attacked. This made her even more famous so the news travelled to the whole wide world. She was the most famous lizard in the universe!

The End

Commended: Frida Kahlo

Joni Eyre

Hello. My name is Frida Kahlo and I live in Mexico. Once I got very sick and my leg became as skinny as a rake. I love dressing up differently. Then one day, at the end of the day, I came on a bus home but the bus crashed into a car. LIFE CHANGED FOREVER! Then I had to rest in bed and when I was in bed I drew pictures of my feet. I was still in pain but I decided to draw self-portraits. I met Diego and then we fell in love. I painted about my feelings. Then when I died I became famous.

I feel sad and happy about Frida. Even though she was still in pain she painted pictures and that is how she became famous. Before she died she painted a picture that said Viva La Vida and that means LIVE LIFE. She loved painting. She never gave up. She followed her dreams.

Commended: Funny Thing About Fame

Jessie Thompson

Yes, I know. I am a famous child star. Brooke is my name. But not famous like my parents want – silly singing and dancing and shows and medals. Not that. That's not me. I am famous YouTuber. Subscribe here - Like Me - How many views did I get? All of these things that make me cool and make me famous.

I am a song writer. I write songs in my room. Late at night in my bed I think of new rhymes and songs. This keeps me famous and I don't have to worry about stage freight because it's online. I can do it in my room or my lounge with my sister. And trust me, I get baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaad stage freight, Once my Mum put me in a dance show. I stood at the back of the stage and I ran off. Tooooooooooooooooooooo many people. embarrassin. But not on Youtube. I am funny and cool.

The funny thing is about fame, I like fame but not in front of people. I like fame but not when I have to do it when I'm asked. I do it when I want to, I do what I want to do and when I WANT TO. Fame isn't fun if I have to do it, Like clubs.. sometimes I want to street dance and sometimes I don't. That's why I am a famous Youtuber. Do it when I want to. And you get free stuff. Companies send you toys to open.

Writing songs all night, keeps me awake ALOT. Its more fun than homework but then I am grumpy for school the next day. Tonight I am going to bed early. I know if I am up writing songs I am too tired to do anything. If I am not tired I can do anything... and then when I sleep all night the next day I'm not tired, so I write songs again and stay late again hahahahahah 😊 . I'm Brooke a famous song writer Youtuber. Parents don't get it.

I am a youtuber

Subscribe and like

See you for my next episode

Brooke xx

Commended: Miss Potter The Genius

Luca Horvath-Basa

Much more than a child`s book writer.

Beatrix Potter was also a natural scientist and sheep farmer, mycologist, artist who drew the world-famous animals of her tale books. My favourite character of her books is Peter Rabbit who was her real pet bunny.

She made up stories about her own little bunny, Peter Piper. She first sent these stories to family members and friends. This was the beginning of her writing career.

Miss Potter deserves to remain world-wide famous because she was smart and talented in many ways.

1866 The Tale of Peter Rabbit was published for all children's cheer and I'm truly happy for it.

To me fame means power, talent, focus, hard-work, precision, intelligence.

If I had the power, I`d help people.

Beatrix Potter used her fortune to help people and left fifteen big farms, cottages and huge lands to the National Trust.

If I were famous, I would be like her in my own way because I'm unique. I believe in hard work, and I don't give up.

Poetry Category

1st Place Poem: The Talking Sheep

Athena Helen Gordon

When we were on holiday in Wales,
We were surrounded by loads of sheep.
I grabbed one and hid it from Mummy,
I took it home to keep.

I made it a house in our under-stair's cupboard,
With a potty, some water and grass.
I taught it to speak English,
It really made me laugh.

The talking sheep made me famous,
Everyone saw me on the tele.
But I don't think I liked the fame,
It made me feel wobbly like a jelly.

Now me and my sheep play at home,
I think it's really cool.
And all my friends love it,
When I ride on him to school.

2nd Place Poem: A Tale of Magic Sparkle
Jackie Marvell Rudyant

Once upon a time, in the enchanted forest where wishes come alive,
Lived a little bunny named Sparkle, ready to strive.
With a heart full of hope and eyes that gleam,
Dreaming of fame, like a shooting star's beam.

One day, Sparkle found a magic hat,
Worn by a wizard who can grant wishes, imagine that!
It dazzled and glowed with a magical sheen,
And suddenly, Sparkle became an amazing scene.

The animals cheered, the forest came alive,
As Magic Sparkle's fame began to thrive.
Beyond compare, he got the glory and also the cheers,
A privilege to spread happiness to those eyes and ears.

Yet Sparkle, with his wisdom and humble heart,
Understood that fame was just a tiny part.
So, he shared the hat with all his friends,
A magical adventure that never ends.

In the end, he learned, fame was more than a show,
It's love and friendship that make hearts glow.
For in the world of dreams, where adventures unfold,
Fame is sweet when shared, especially with friends untold.

3rd Place Poem: Lights, Camera, Action

Aathvika Santhosh

Lights, Camera, Action!

It's time to have some fun,

I get to share my joy with others

And perform in front of everyone.

Sometimes when I'm nervous

I take a breath and close my eyes;

And pretend I'm on stage

With beautiful butterflies

One day I'll be famous,

Maybe even be on TV

Baker, painter, singer, dancer

Whatever I want to be

It can be a bit scary,

The glitz, glamour and the fame

But I'll sing, smile, laugh and shout

And everyone will know my name!

Highly Commended: Plaquescapes
Solal Nahmad

I am as round as the sun,
And as blue as the sea.
If you look up high,
You might see me.

I live up in the air,
With the wind and the rain.
People like to find me,
Again and again.

I think I'm important,
Many people also think so.
Someone famous used to live here,
In case you didn't know.

I once had a prime minister,
Or was it a scientist?
Possibly a mathematician,
An author or an artist.

Commended: My Brother And I Are Going To Be Famous
Suraiya Kochhar

Yash is his name and Yash means fame,
He is my brother and he was named by our mother.
We play giggly games and our birthdays are the same.
Two years apart on the 4th of June,
We sing happy birthday to each other in a lovely tune.
We have the same birthday but are a different age,
We will be famous together on a very big stage.
Our mum calls us her 4th June fortune,
We have lots of fun and we share a room.
He has the bottom bunkbed and I have the top,
I share with Princess Jasmine and he shares with his teddies, he has a lot!
I am smart and he is funny,
We will use our talents to become famous and save lots of money.
We will try and win medals that are shiny and gold like honey
And win lots of prizes like chocolate, that is so yummy.
We would love to be on television
and be famous for winning this (Elmbridge Literary) poetry competition.

Commended: Harry Potter Tanka Poem
Greta Bohmer-Peralta

Harry Potter the
Famous wizard at Hogwarts
Because he survived

The Dark Lord attacking him
Leaving a lightning bolt scar

The R C Sherriff Trust is an independent charitable trust, established through the terms of the Will of playwright, R C Sherriff. It has been promoting and developing the arts in the Borough of Elmbridge, for 30 years. Further details about the Trust can be found at www.rcsherrifftrust.org.uk

Elmbridge Borough Council's Arts Development seeks to increase opportunities for people to engage in the arts, culture and heritage of our Borough, either individually or through partnerships, such as those with the R.C. Sherriff Trust that make Elmbridge Primary Schools Festival possible. With the aim of engaging residents, Elmbridge Borough Council's Art Development supports arts organisations and presents arts-based activities that improve the physical and mental health of people who live and work in Elmbridge.

