

# **THE *CARMEL BIRD***

## **SHORT FICTION AWARD 2012**

We are pleased to announce the short-list of finalists for this competition. We would like to thank all of those who entered. The overall winner, runners-up and commended will be announced on International Women's Day, 2013.

### **Finalist Short List (alphabetical) with excerpts from Amanda Lohrey's Judge's Report:**

Joanna Atherfold Finn, 'Jesus Sandals and Anchovette'

'Very engaging-manifest talent here. The child's voice is artfully natural ...'

Joanna Atherfold Finn, 'Something for a Rainy Day'

'The tone is beautiful in its sustained wistfulness, as are the descriptive passages, especially in relation to water.'

Sue Goldstiver, 'Empty Rooms'

'If its narrative project is to convey the menace and paranoia of a subculture then it succeeds.'

Erin Gough, 'Night Trip'

'This writer has a natural talent for story-telling and for creating suspense.'

Marjorie Lewis-Jones, 'Shooting Star'

'This is beautifully written. I like the immediacy and the naturalness of the voice which led me to feel that I knew the main character.'

Marian Matta, 'Danny Boy'

'... well written and beautifully paced ... a very strategic piece of storytelling that unwinds its skein with great care and subtlety.'

Belinda Rule, 'The Road to Toodleton'

'I like the ambitiousness of the form here, the way the writer sets up a parallel or counter-narrative in the form of the child's consoling fantasy and friends.'

Felicity Volk, 'Ite, missa est (Go, you are sent forth)'

'It is well written in the sense that from the very beginning it has strong conviction of tone ... the main character has a complex sensibility which is rendered on the page with seeming effortlessness.'

Congratulations, all, from **SPINELESSWONDERS**

[www.shortaustralianstories.com.au](http://www.shortaustralianstories.com.au)