



## TLC Free Reads 2007 – Rules and Guidelines

What can you submit?

- One synopsis & up to 50 pages
- One synopsis & up to 100 pages
- One manuscript: any length
- Up to four short stories: any length
- Up to ten poems: any number of lines
- TV, film, radio and theatre scripts: treatments up to 50 page
- Scripts (averaging 250 words per page) up to 120 pp

Types of work covered by the scheme are literary and strong genre fiction, poetry, children's writing, occasional literary biography, and scripts for television, radio, film and theatre.

The criteria for submissions:

1. Work should be of a reasonable standard and ideally, writers should have had their work appraised elsewhere, through a writing class, a writing group, or similar. This is to ensure that the writer is at a level where he or she is prepared to receive critical feedback and will benefit from it.
2. Authors - pages **MUST** be numbered consecutively from page one (not chapter by chapter).
3. Poets – tell us in your covering letter how many lines of poetry you have submitted.
4. All work **MUST** be typed on one side of the paper in 12pt double spaced font, with reasonable margins. No other format will be accepted.
5. An SAE must be included for **EVERY** piece of work as each one may be sent to a different reader. The SAE must be of an adequate size and include sufficient postage for the return of your manuscript.
6. Each writer must submit a covering letter with their application, outlining the stage they are at with their piece/s of work and what they hope to gain from the feedback. For instance 'This is my third draft and I am struggling with dialogue – how can I make my characters sound more realistic?' or 'I am looking for comments regarding the form and structure of my poems'.
7. Each writer submitting work must be nominated by someone else and a brief letter of nomination must be included with the submission. The nominating person can be anyone you know, so long as they have read your work.
8. Writers must be genuinely unable to afford the usual fee (prices start from around £90, depending on word count).

Each of these criteria must be met and any applications that do not meet each one will be discounted.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 21 December. Selected writers will be informed work will be submitted to TLC by the end of January. A detailed critical response from the TLC readers then takes up to three months. All entries should be sent to the address below.

If you require any further information, please contact Janice Benson, Project Co-Ordinator

