

The Toronto Star, April 30, 2015 Terry Fallis wins 2015 Stephen Leacock humour award

Author of *The Best Laid Plans* becomes a two-time Stephen Leacock Medal winner with his latest *No Relation*.



"I was bowled over. I was quite certain I was not going to win," says Terry Fallis, now a two-time winner of the Leacock Medal.

By: [Deborah Dundas](#) Books, Published on Thu Apr 30 2015

Terry Fallis has won the 2015 [Stephen Leacock Medal](#) for Humour for his book *No Relation* (McClelland & Stewart). This is the fourth time Fallis has been up for the award — he won it in 2008 for *The Best Laid Plans* and was shortlisted in 2011 for *The High Road* and again in 2013 for *Up and Down*.

The award, announced Thursday, includes a medal and a cash prize of \$15,000 from the TD Financial Group.

"Anyone who thinks when they hit the second time it doesn't feel quite as good is completely wrong," Fallis said as he was driving — using a hands-free phone, he was quick to add — back from Orillia where the winner was announced. "I was bowled over. I was quite certain I was not going to win. (I'm) extraordinarily grateful for the recognition."

As to having all of his books being nominated for a medal, Fallis said: "Nobody is more shocked about that than I. The Leacock Committee and Leacock Associates have been very good to me. It really changed my life as a writer when I won it the first time."

Within a week of being shortlisted for the 2008 prize (his first book was self-published) he landed "the only literary agent I ever really wanted," he said. And within a week of winning that first award, he signed with McClelland & Stewart.

The other finalists were: *Curtains for Roy* by Aaron Bushkowsky (Cormorant Books), *Where I Belong* by Alan Doyle (Doubleday Canada), *Laughing All The Way to the Mosque* by Zarqa Nawaz (HarperCollins) and *A Loose Egg* by Robert Wringham (Blurb). These runners up will receive \$1,500 each.

The shortlist was chosen from 73 submissions for this year's award. The medal was first awarded in 1947. Throughout its history, [women have only won the medal six times](#).

Fallis will receive his medal at a gala dinner in June.

From Winterset in Summer: Terry is a panelist at Leacock Voices on Friday, August 7th at 3 p.m.