

## Booker Prize 2013

Monday, 14 October 2013

The Booker Prize short list; the worst in ages (Stella Rimington's year 2011 was the best ever) ...

The Luminaries - Eleanor Catton; I read 100 pages, liked it but didn't love it; will return to complete it - 5/10

Harvest - Jim Crace; Good but not as good as his superb Quarantine - 7/10

The Testament of Mary - Colm Toibin; excellent but limited - 6/10

A Tale For The Time Being - Ruth Ozeki; liked this a lot but only read 50 pages; again, I intend to read more; 6/10

We Need New Names - NoViolet Bulawayo: really didn't like this - one of those first person irritating narratives; after 50 pages discarded it; 3/10

The Lowland - Jhumpa Lahiri: quite nice writing but more of the same; lost interest early on. 3/10

Jim Crace will probably win but I'm delighted to say that my own new novel, which I'm proof reading, is better than all of them.

And the best novel I've read in 2013, A Delicate Truth by John Le Carre, is far better still; 10/10