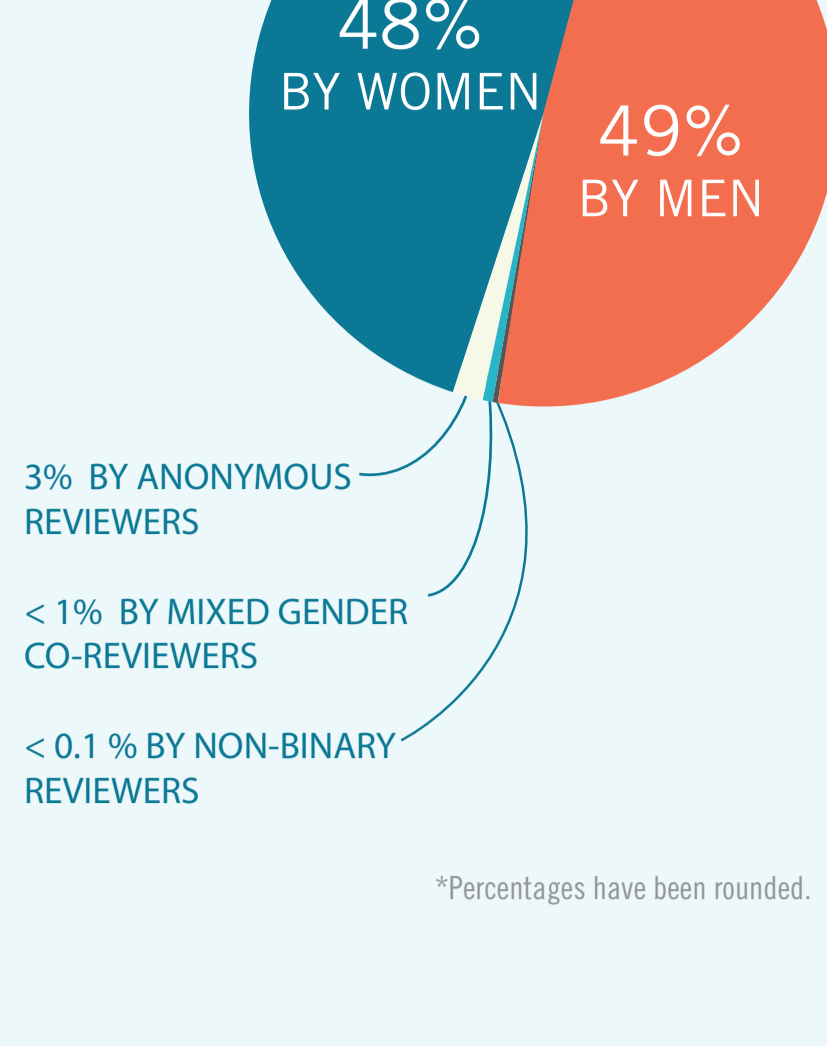


Building an Equitable Review Culture in Canada

Canadian Women in the Literary Arts (CWILA) counted **5268 book reviews** published during 2015 across **30 journals and newspapers**, including 5 French-language publications.

REVIEWS PUBLISHED IN 2015*



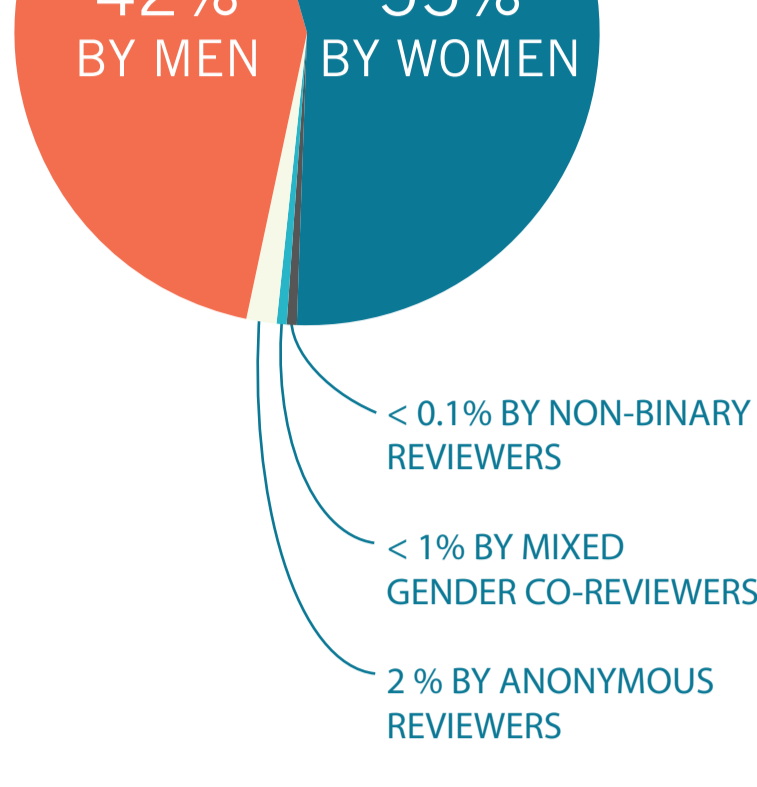
*Percentages have been rounded.

We found that women and men are, on average, publishing book reviews at **near-equal** rates within Canadian publications! This is a major milestone for review culture in Canada.

REVIEWS IN CANADA

Although we've reached gender parity nationally, a significant gender gap persists in Québec's French review culture.

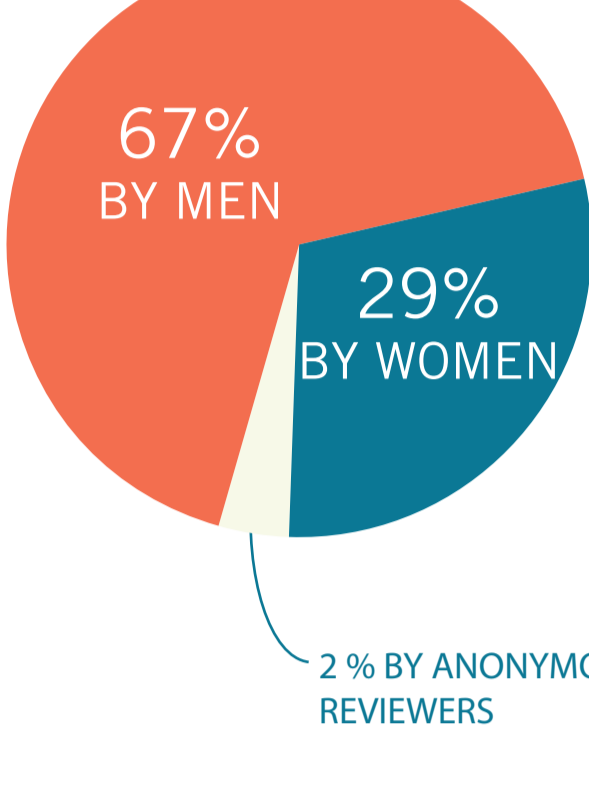
REVIEWS IN ENGLISH*



English Publications (25)

The Antigonish Review, Arc Poetry, Briarpatch, Broken Pencil, Canadian Literature, Canadian Notes & Queries, Chronicle Herald, Event, Fiddlehead, Geist, Literary Review of Canada, Maisonneuve, Matrix, National Post, PRISM international, Quill & Quire, rabble.ca, subTerrain, The Globe and Mail, The Malahat Review, This Magazine, Toronto Star, Vancouver Sun, The Walrus, Winnipeg Free Press

REVIEWS IN FRENCH**



French Publications (5)

Le Devoir, Lettres québécoises, Liberté: art et politique, Nuit blanche, Spirale

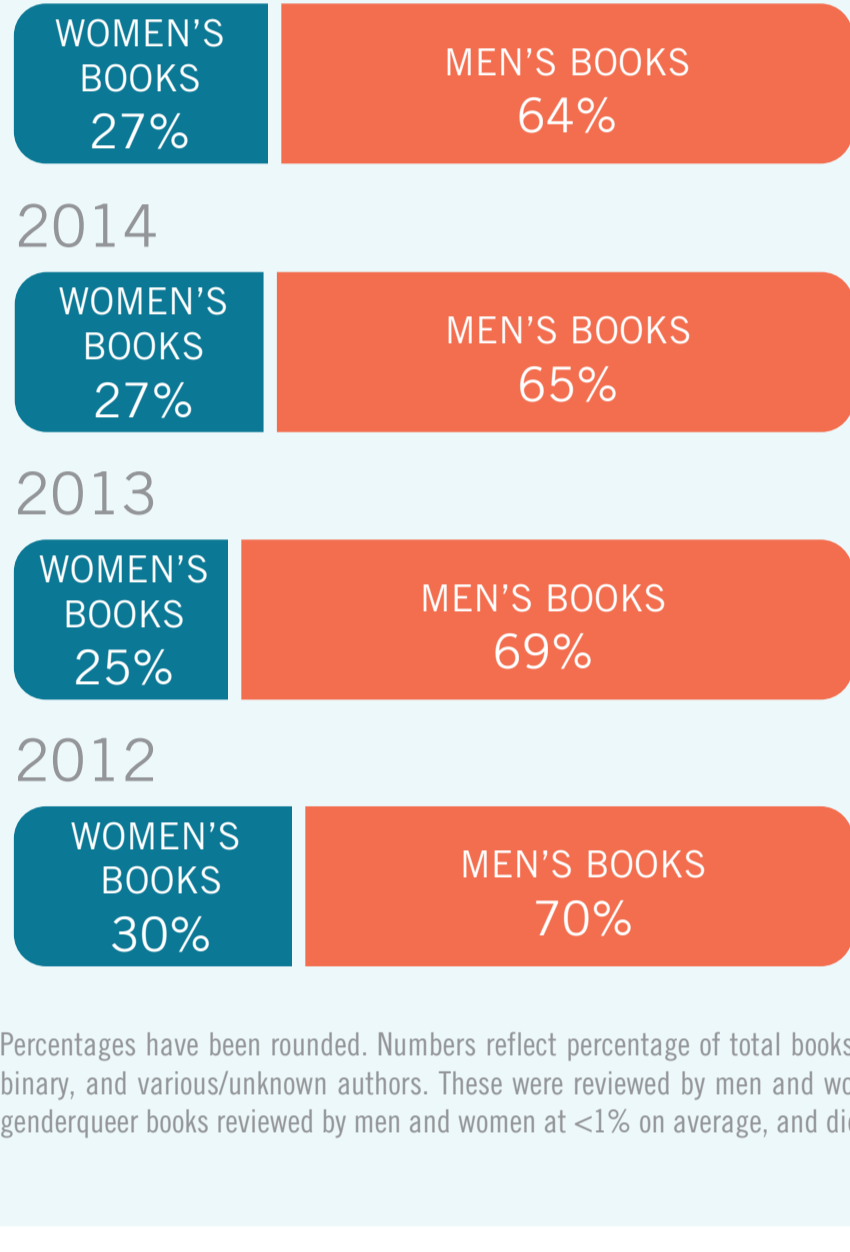
*Percentages have been rounded.

**No reviews by non-binary or mixed gender co-reviewers were counted in 2015.

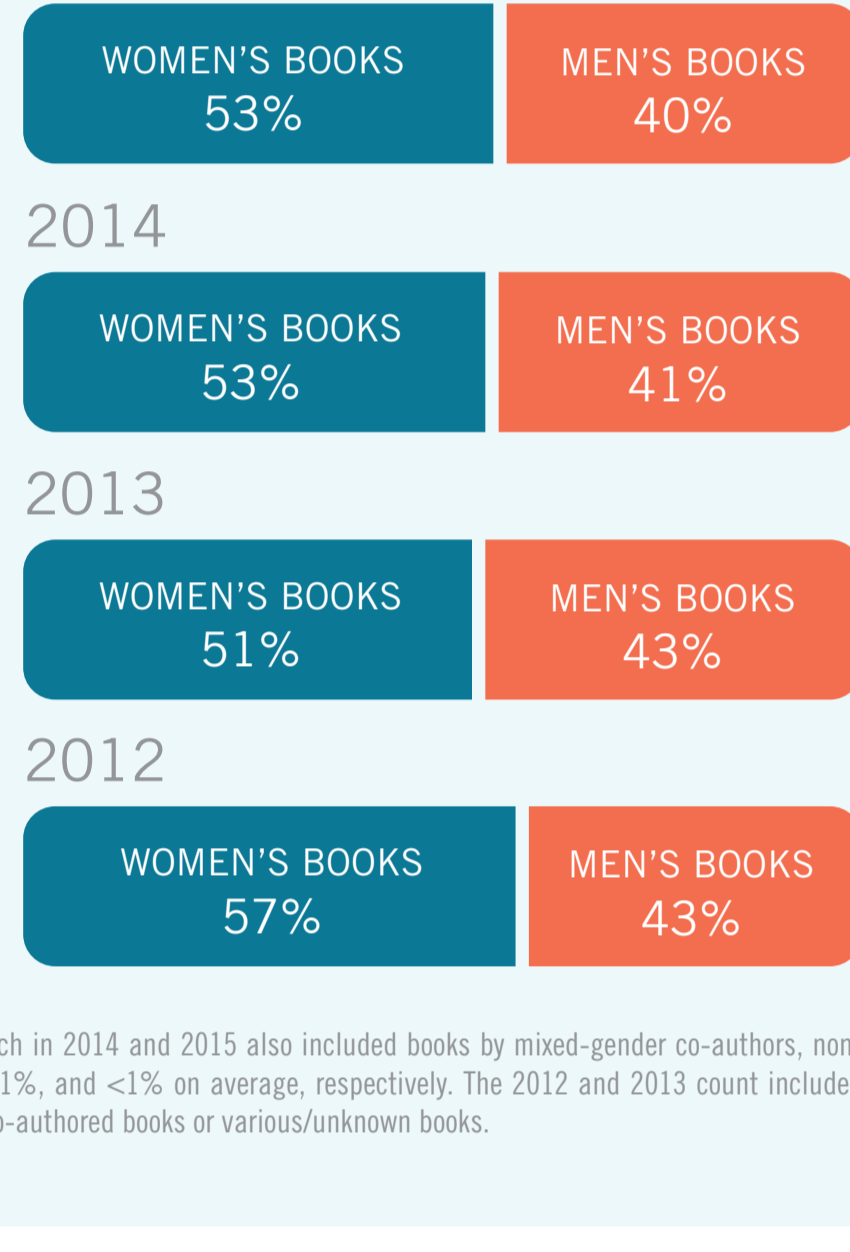
Spotlight on Reviewing Trends

Regional differences are only part of the deeper story. As in previous years, reviewing practices are complicated by gender bias trends. On average, men have been reviewing men's books **2 to 3 times more** than women's books.

Reviews by Men



Reviews by Women

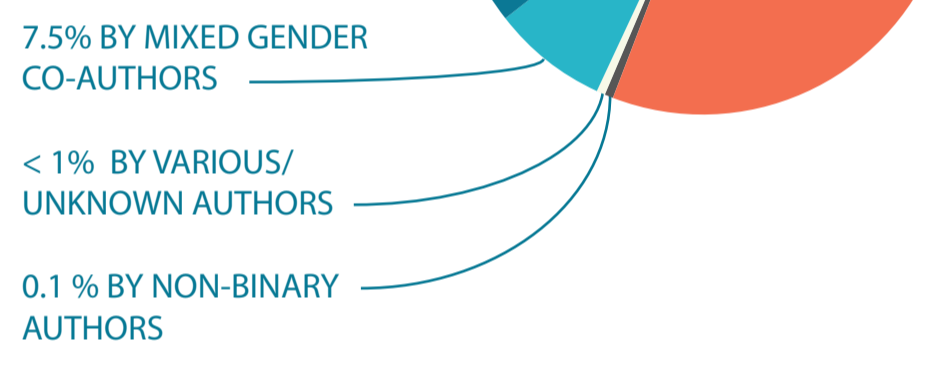


Percentages have been rounded. Numbers reflect percentage of total books reviewed, which in 2014 and 2015 also included books by mixed-gender co-authors, non-binary, and various/unknown authors. These were reviewed by men and women at 5%, <1%, and <1% on average, respectively. The 2012 and 2013 count included genderqueer books reviewed by men and women at <1% on average, and did not include co-authored books or various/unknown books.

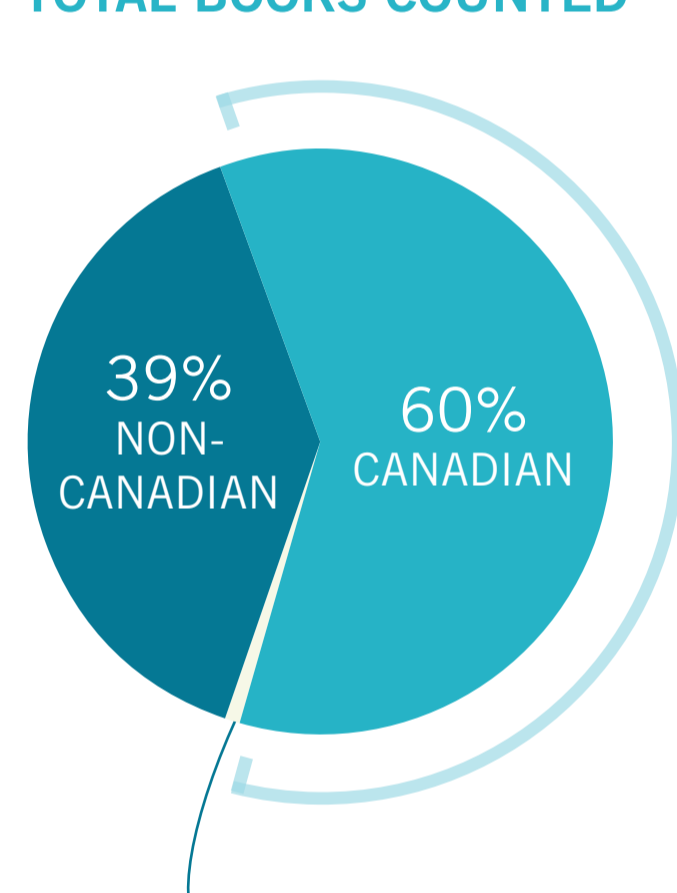
Who's Getting Reviewed?

Still receiving significantly less coverage than men's books on average, women's books are very gradually occupying more space in Canadian reviews every year. This year marks the highest average yet, and we still have room to grow.

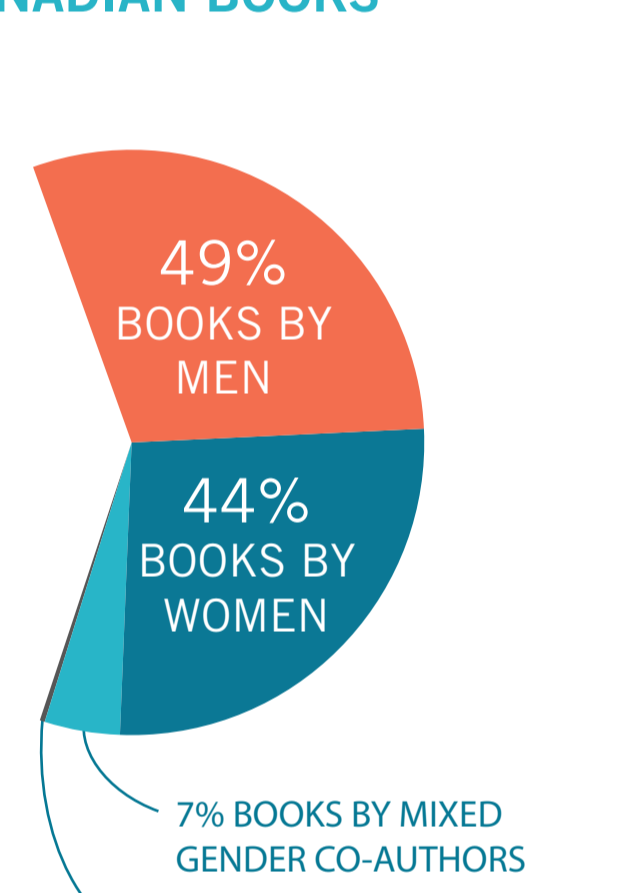
BOOKS REVIEWED IN 2015*



TOTAL BOOKS COUNTED*



CANADIAN BOOKS*



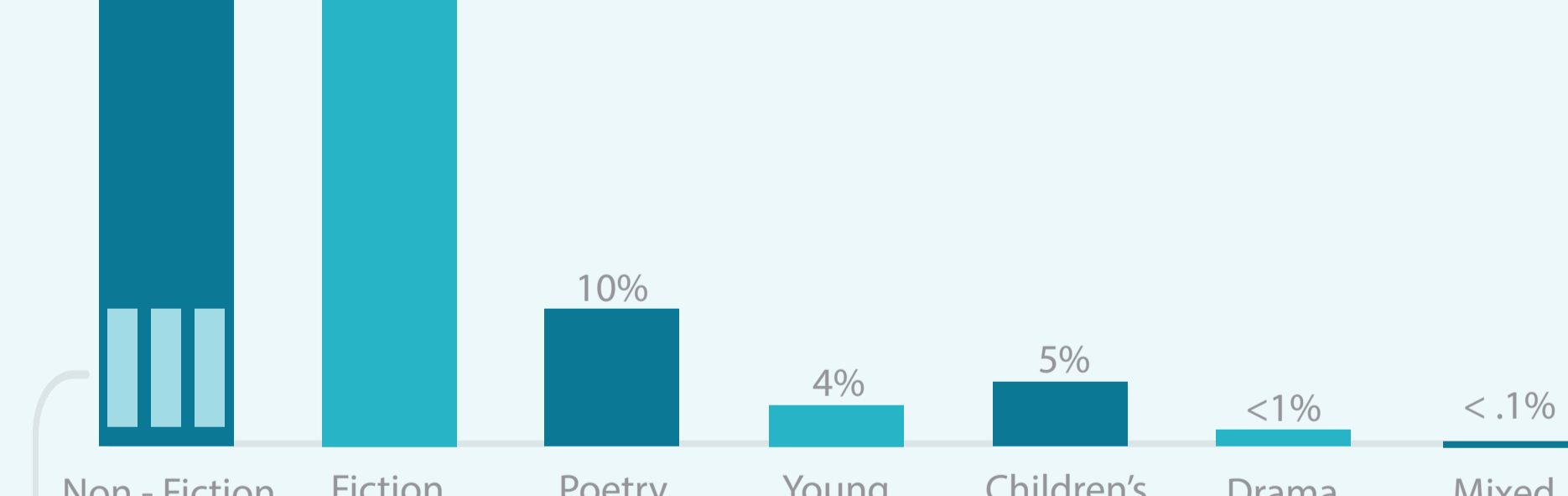
*Percentages have been rounded.

Top 10 Books Reviewed in 2015

1. *The Jaguar's Children* by John Vaillant
2. *The Reason You Walk* by Wab Kinew
3. *Boo* by Neil Smith
4. *Martin John* by Anakana Schofield
5. *Undermajordomo Minor* by Patrick deWitt
6. *Confidence* by Russell Smith
7. *The Devil You Know* by Elisabeth de Mariaffi
8. *The Evening Chorus* by Helen Humphreys
9. *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins
10. *The Heart Goes Last* by Margaret Atwood

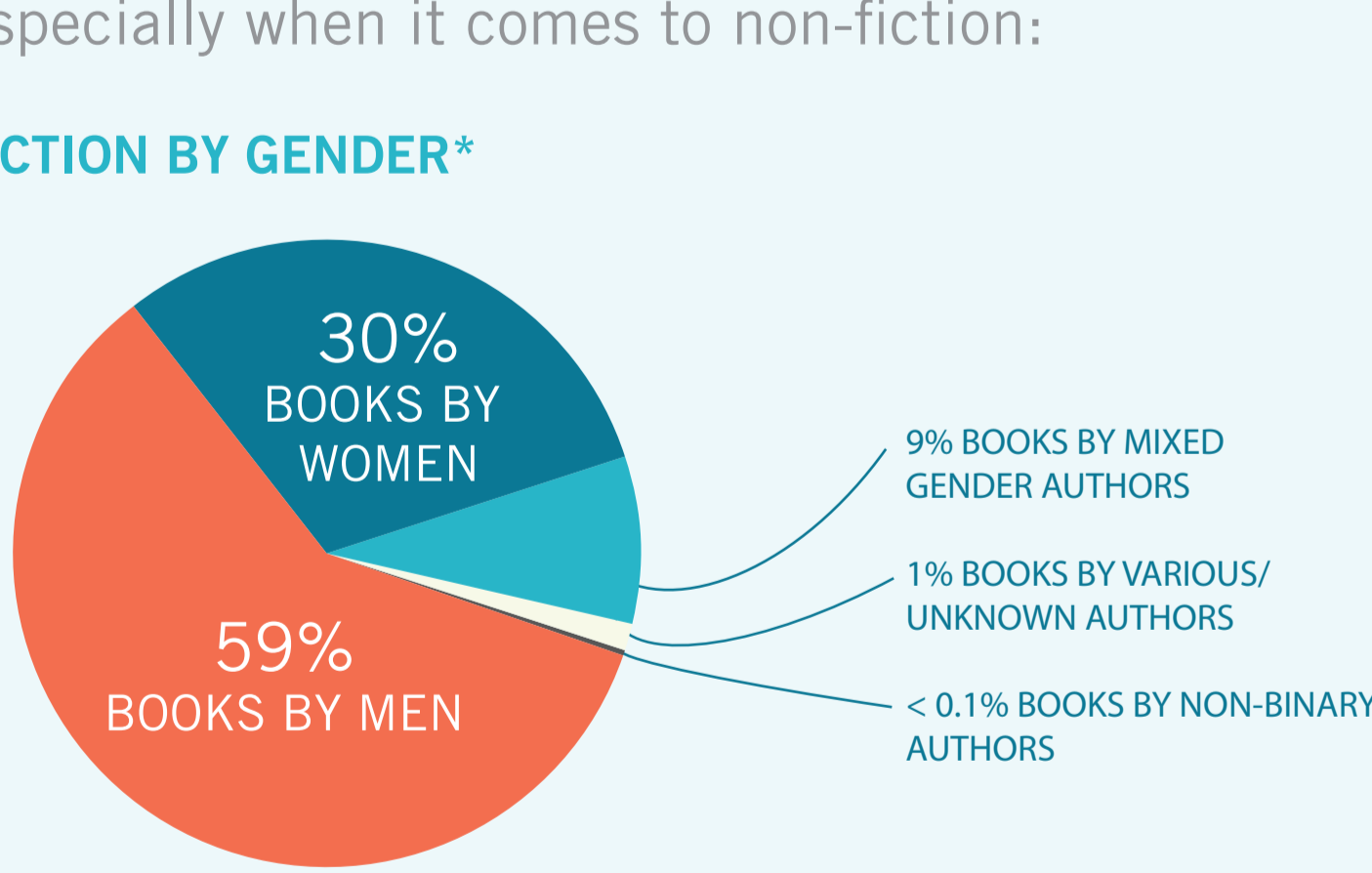
GENRE AND GENDER

A wide range of genres were reviewed in 2015, though fiction and non-fiction were heavily favoured.



A close look reveals that genre and gender interact in critical culture, especially when it comes to non-fiction:

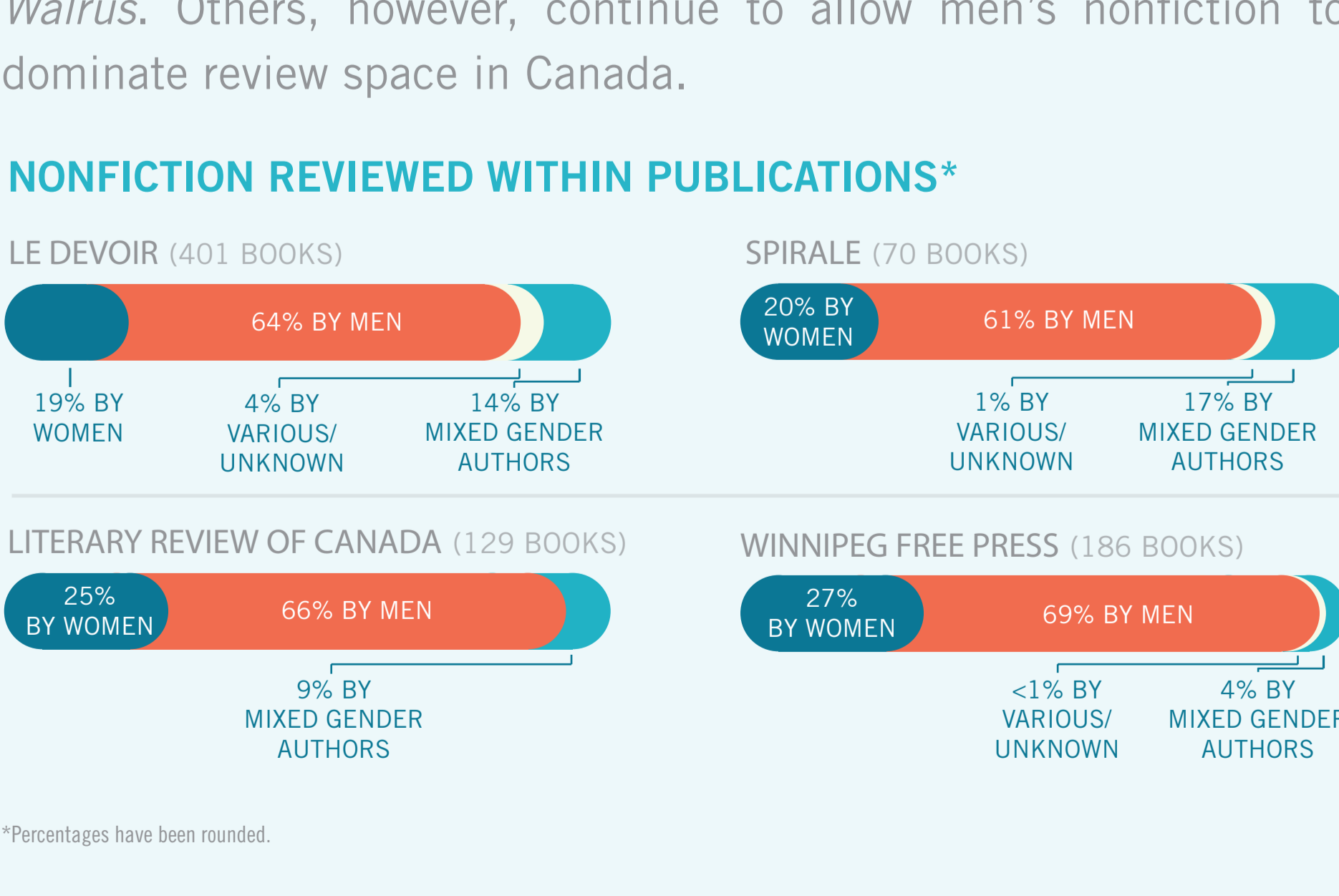
NON-FICTION BY GENDER*



*Percentages have been rounded.

The trend toward reviewing men's non-fiction over women's non-fiction is not universal. Many publications continue to review women's non-fiction at high or near-equal rates to men's non-fiction, including *Liberté*, *Vancouver Sun*, *Briarpatch*, and *The Walrus*. Others, however, continue to allow men's nonfiction to dominate review space in Canada.

NONFICTION REVIEWED WITHIN PUBLICATIONS*



*Percentages have been rounded.

We are not numbers. But we are using numbers to understand a system that we have created. The numbers help us see the ways in which our system is a meritocracy, a celebration of great literature, and the ways in which it is not.

Madeleine Thien, author of *Do Not Say We Have Nothing* (2016), finalist in the Scotiabank Giller Prize and Governor General's Literary Award, and shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2016.

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