

THE REBEL READING SOCIETY

Author Spotlight



Jennifer Killick

When did you decide that you wanted to become an author?

I loved writing stories all through school, but I thought authors were super fancy, glamorous, smart people so being one wasn't a job option for me. It was only when I was in my late twenties that I found the courage to start trying to get something published.

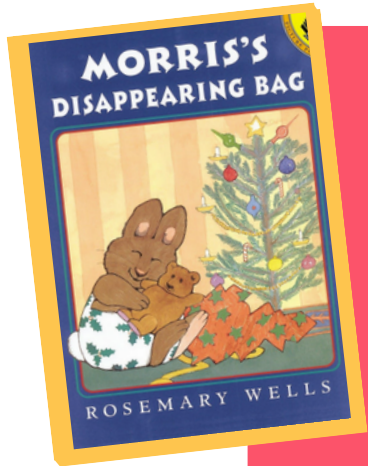


Did you read lots as a child - if you did, where did you mainly read? If you didn't, what was the reason?

My mum has always been a big reader, and as a child she used to take me to my local library every weekend. I'd read in there all morning, and then take books home to read in bed.

What was your favourite book as a child and why?

My favourite book as a child was *Morris's Disappearing Bag* by Rosemary Wells because it is an excellent story about getting a win over your brothers and sisters.



How does it feel to see your books in shops and being sold?

Seeing my books in shops is always, even after nine years, a lovely, magical thing. It makes me happy and proud.

What is the best part about being an author?

The best part of being an author is when I find out that my stories have made a difference to someone and made their life better, even if it's only in a small way.

What are the 'not so fun bits' in being an author?

The hardest part about being an author is the constant feeling of not doing it well enough - reading scathing reviews, missing out on awards and opportunities that you really wanted, not selling enough books...



Why do you think it is important for children to read?

Reading is important for many reasons, but for me the most important one is that it will make your life more fun and less lonely, and it will help you find courage and comfort in tough times.



What is the inspiration for your books and writing?

My inspiration generally comes from every-day things: a train journey, a weird crack in a wall, people I meet, wildlife documentaries and old movies.



Who gives you feedback on your drafts and how do you act on the feedback?

Most of my feedback comes from my editor, who is brilliant at her job. Sometimes some of it stings a little at first, but I let that feeling settle and then I think about how I can take it on board and improve my work. She's usually right!



More Info



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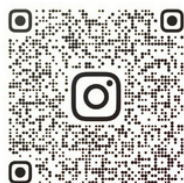
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Finally, if you could read for an hour, on your own, anywhere in the world - where would it be?

My favourite place to read is at home in my bed - warm, safe and snuggly. My second favourite place to read is in my hotel room bed at Disneyland Paris. My husband, son and I go every year during the Christmas season, and I love having a busy day out in the parks, going on rides and meeting characters, eating a big dinner and then snuggling up in our hotel room next to the Christmas tree.