

THE REBEL READING SOCIETY



Author Spotlight

Jess Bradley

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

I think I wanted to be an author quite early on, at least when I was about 7 or 8. Over the years there were other jobs I considered (I came very close to studying to become a special effects make-up artist at one point) but becoming an illustrator won out!



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

I read all the time! I loved comics like *Garfield* and *X-Men* but also read whatever I could from our amazing local library. The *Point Horror* books were huge for me and I also loved anything by *Judy Blume*.

What was your favourite book as a child and why?

I had a lot of favourites but *The Deptford Mice Trilogy* by Robin Jarvis has stuck with me for years. They were re-released a couple of years back and my son is now reading them! *The Snow Spider Trilogy* was and still is a favourite set of books.



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

It feels incredible when you see your work being sold in bookshops because so much work goes into making a book, that actually seeing it in its finished form can be a bit overwhelming! It is also just really really cool!

What is the best part about being an author?

For me, the best part about being a writer and artist is making things that I find funny and seeing that other people find them funny too. Sharing humour is one of my favourite things!

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

For me the not-so-fun bits are the boring grown-up things you have to do around the fun stuff, like paying bills and doing my tax return! They need to be done though and I usually treat myself by doing some fun work in my sketchbooks afterwards.



Check list!



Go away

Grumpy Teddy ☐



Bad Drawings ☐



Half-eaten Food ☐



A Woodlouse ☐

You're ready! ☐



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

There is so much inspiration to be found in books and that's what fuelled my imagination throughout childhood. I enjoyed them but I also wanted to make them too. Reading a particular book could totally inspire you to create your own world and it's so much fun to do that. I still make zines just for fun.

For Sale ★★ ★



Carrot: decent Condition
Please note: this Carrot
is not Special in any
way.

Price: A Cup of tea or
next best offer

What is the inspiration for your books and writing?

My main inspiration comes from books, comics, video games, films and cartoons. I grew up in the 1980s and 90s so very much had an analogue childhood! I made my own zines, made silly action films on my friend's camcorder and just drew and read in my free time. I'm also inspired by the natural world because there's just so much amazingly weird stuff to read about.



Join us!



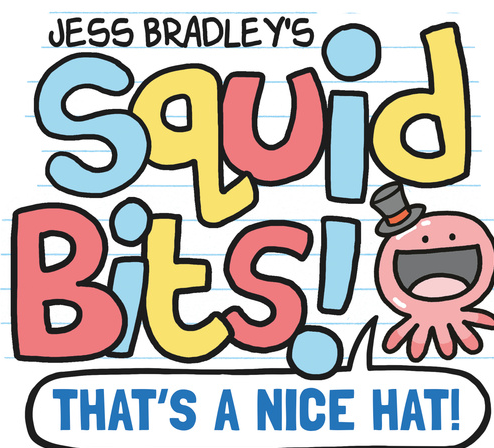
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Who gives you feedback on your drafts and how do you act on the feedback?

My editor or art director gives me feedback on my work and I usually agree with them, as making books very much a team effort, even if your name mainly appears on the cover! I have very nice, talented editors so I trust their feedback!

Everyone
STOP!!

All right,
calm down!



More Info



That's your
lot! Now,
GO AWAY!!



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

I actually got to do that recently on my holiday. We went to Italy in a valley surrounded by mountains and I read out on the porch. The only sounds were birds and insects and it was amazing!