

Letterpress Young Reader Interviews

An Interview With Penny (aged 11)

Q1. What are your earliest memories of reading books – do you have a particular book you remember from that time?

When I was little, Mum would read me a lot of Julia Donaldson, Judith Kerr and 'The Owl and The Pussycat' by Edward Lear. The first books I remember reading on my own were the 'Ottoline' series by Chris Riddell and 'Animal Stories' by Dick King-Smith. 'The Borrowers' and 'Pippi Longstocking' were also a very big part of my childhood.

Q2. What are your favourite kinds of books now?

My favourite genres of books are murder mystery and fantasy, such as 'Murder on The Orient Express' by Agatha Christie and 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R. Tolkien. I also really enjoy science fiction like 'Artemis Fowl' and 'A Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy'

Q3. Have you got a favourite author (or two)

I like so many authors that it is very hard to pick just 1 so here is a list of my favourites:

-  Stephen Fry
-  Philip Pullman
-  Cressida Cowell

- ✚ Chris Riddell
- ✚ J.R.R. Tolkien
- ✚ Julia Donaldson
- ✚ Agatha Christie
- ✚ Arthur Conan Doyle
- ✚ J.K. Rowling
- ✚ Terry Pratchett
- ✚ Roald Dahl
- ✚ Michael Morpurgo

Q4. How often do you read? Is there a favourite time when you like reading best?

I read every day and before bed is my favourite time to do it, but if it is a nice day, I like to sit outside and get lost in a good mystery. I enjoy reading immensely and it is one of my favourite things to do!

Q5. Are you hoping to build a book collection? How many have you got and what's your prized possession?

I have about 8 book collections so far:

- ✚ 'Harry Potter' by J.K. Rowling
- ✚ 'Lord of the Rings' by J.R.R. Tolkien
- ✚ 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell
- ✚ 'Ottoline' by Chris Riddell
- ✚ 'Goth Girl' by Chris Riddell
- ✚ 'His Dark Materials' by Philip Pullman
- ✚ 'Chrestomanci' by Diana Wynne Jones
- ✚ 'Horrible Histories' by Terry Deary

I am hoping to collect all of Agatha Christie's 'Hercule Poirot' mysteries and Terry Pratchett's 'Discworld'. If I had a prize possession it would be 'Good Omens' by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett. Its about a demon called Crowley and an angel called Aziraphale who are trying to stop Armageddon and defeat the Anti-Christ (Satan's son) with the help of a witch known as Anathema Device and a witchfinder private, Newton Pulsifer.