

CRESSIDA COWELL

Who was your favourite author/illustrator as a child?

I particularly enjoyed the books of Diana Wynne Jones as a child. *The Ogre Downstairs*, in which five children find two magical chemistry sets, was my favourite.

What is your earliest childhood memory?

My earliest childhood memory is of a game I played with my father in which he launched me to the 'moon' - my fingerprints were on the ceiling for years afterwards.

If you could meet anyone in the world, who would it be and why?

I would love to have met Shakespeare. I am a bit addicted to reading books about him and I would love to find out if any of them are at all accurate, but unfortunately whatever else may or may not be true about him he is most definitely DEAD.

What is your favourite city and why?

London is absolutely my most favourite city in the world, which is lucky because I live there, but Edinburgh, Paris, New York and Rome are all very exciting to visit.

What is your daily routine?

I am woken up at about seven every day by my daughter Clemmie, who is a human alarm clock, it's amazing, I don't know how she does it. I am surprisingly organised about working when the children are at school, because if I wasn't I would NEVER get it all done.

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Cressida Cowell grew up mostly in Central London. She has a BA in English Literature from Oxford University, a BA in Graphic Design from St Martin's and an MA in Narrative Illustration from Brighton. She lives in Hammersmith, London with her husband, three children and a hamster Mini.

Bibliography

Picture Books:

Hiccup the Viking who was Seasick
Little Bo Peep's Troublesome Sheep

Hiccup series:

How to Train Your Dragon
How to be a Pirate
How to Speak Dragonese
How to Cheat a Dragon's Curse
How to Twist a Dragon's Tale
A Hero's Guide to Deadly Dragons
How to Ride a Dragon's Storm
How to Break a Dragon's Heart

Award-winning Cressida Cowell

How to Train Your Dragon
Sheffield Children's Book Award 2004 – Shortlisted

How to Twist a Dragon's Tale
Nottingham Children's Book Award 2008 – Shortlisted

