



Collins Big Cat.
Love reading.



Julia Jarman

1. Tell us a bit about yourself.

I'm named after a character in a book my mum borrowed from the library, but she can't remember which book.

When I was a girl my mum used to say, 'Stop telling stories, Julia.' Sometimes I told big whoppers!

2. When did you start writing?

I don't know, but I was first published when I was 8. I wrote a letter about my pet pig, Silky, and sent it to a comic called *Chicks Own*.

3. Why do you write? What motivates you?

I can't stop. I have an urge to express myself. I like entertaining people.

4. How do you start to write?

First I jot down the idea before I forget it. Then I ask myself questions to make the idea grow. I plan as far as I can, but can't always think of the ending, so I start - I love starting - usually on my computer.

5. How do you get inspiration for writing?

Real life gives me lots of ideas and then I add IMAGINATION.

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6. Where and when do write? Is there a good time of day?

Any table, any chair, any time, anywhere. But I like to get going in the morning when I'm full of energy and I love writing on my computer in my cosy study.

7. What achievement are you most proud of?

Being able to write in different genres for a variety of age groups - from tots to teens and in between!

8. What was your favourite book as a child and what did it mean to you?

Little Women by Louisa M Alcott. I was the feisty Jo March when I read that story. She gave me the idea of becoming a writer, when she grew up and became a writer in the sequels.

10. What are your top five tips for budding young writers?

1. READ! READ! READ! READ! READ!

2. There are lots more tips on my website. Go to www.juliajarman.com for my Writing Recipe, my Story Plan and tips on editing your work.

Julia Jarman has written the following titles for Collins Big Cat:

978-0-00-718607-5 *Harry The Clever Spider*: Band 07/Turquoise

978-0-00-723088-4 *Stowaway!*: Band 14/Ruby

978-0-00-718670-9 *Harry The Clever Spider At School*: Band 07/Turquoise

