

**Letterpress Young Reader Interviews** 

# An Interview With Miranda & Rosalind Taylor

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

Rosie: I remember reading "Dr. Duck" at school, when I was in reception. That was when I learned to read. I remember reading "Hippos Go Beserk" with mummy and daddy. I still like that book because it is fun. The party that the hippos have looks really fun. I also remember "Hide Me, Kipper" which used to be one of my favourite books. It isn't any more because there are other books I like better now.

Miranda: I remember reading "Biff and Chip and Kipper" at school. I also remember "Kipper" the dog books. When I was very little I remember my mummy and daddy reading me "I'm Not Cute" by Jonathan Allen. I liked it because the author's first name is the same as my daddy's. I used to think daddy wrote it.

#### Q2. What are your favourite kinds of books now?

Rosie: I particularly like pet books – books like "Spy Dog" and "Rabbityness" and "The Railway Rabbits," where the main characters are animals.

Miranda: I like adventure stories and fiction. I like them because they are fun to read and exciting.

Rosie: I like "Rabbityness" by Jo Empson. Rabbit makes everyone happy with music and art. The pictures have lots of hidden things in them which you might not see the first time you read it.

Miranda: I like "The Little Princess" by Frances Hodgson Burnett. It is happy and sad at the same time. I like the main character Sara because she doesn't stop thinking that there someone out there who'll love her and take care of her. I find the story very surprising. I don't know what's coming next – like when Sara wakes up in her attic room and suddenly there's lots of food and clothes.

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

Rosie: My favourite author is Jo Empson, who wrote "Rabbityness." I love it so much I have made two book displays of it for school. The book makes me feel sad because Rabbit disappears. But then all the other rabbits pick up Rabbit's talents and that makes me happy again. So the book goes from being sad to happy.

Miranda: My favourite author is Roald Dahl, because his stories are different to other books. I like how he gets his ideas from his life. We read "Boy" about his life, and some of what happens also happens in the other books. He used to be a chocolate taster for Cadbury's when he was a boy, and this reminds me of what happens in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

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

Miranda: I like reading at school and at night-time. At school, we don't have much time to read so when we do it is quite precious. I also like reading at night-time because it makes you feel sleepy. I find it calming.

Rosie: I like reading at night-time with my daddy, even though sometimes the books can give you scary dreams, because it's a horrible story. I also like reading at night-time because you feel all snuggly and warm in the bed.

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

Miranda: We have lots of books on our bookshelf. Some of them are picture books, some of them are older books. I would like to collect the "Harry Potter" books. We are all reading the first book at the moment. My prized possession is "The Little Princess." I have almost read it twice.

Rosie: Yes, I would like to collect all the "Railway Rabbits" series by Georgie Adams. I like how some of the books are based on real-life stories. I read "Wisher and the Runaway Pig" last and it was based on a true story where a pig ran onto the line. My prized possession is still "Rabbityness." I read it out to all of our guests and it makes some of them cry.