



Anne Rooney

Q: What were you like at school?

A: Quite scared, a lot of the time. I was bullied for being clever, bullied for not wearing the same clothes as everyone else, bullied for not wearing make-up. I didn't like school very much, though I enjoyed some of the lessons - especially English. I was a difficult child - I argued with the teachers and quite a few of them didn't like that. That didn't make my time there any nicer, but I never learned not to stand up for my views.

Q: What did you want to be when you were a child?

A: Chancellor of the Exchequer, or a marine biologist or a camel biologist.

Q: What makes you cringe?

A: I'm not going to tell you because you will just get fun out of making me cringe!

Q: What's the most outrageous thing you've done?

A: Swim to a land-mined island through a sea of poisonous jellyfish and biting flying fish. No, really.

Q: Do you feel younger or older than your current age?

A: Younger - who would want to feel older than THIS?

Q: What is the most interesting place you have ever visited?

A: Outer Mongolia. Or maybe Communist Albania.

Q: Which three words describe you best?

A: Argumentative, imaginative, eccentric

Q: What are you afraid of?

A: Losing my children; sharks; big slugs

Q: When did you last have a really good laugh?

A: A few minutes ago, when a friend sent me a funny message to cheer me up

Q: If you could meet one person, dead or alive, who would it be?

A: Machiavelli or Rasputin

Q: What is the best advice anyone has ever given you?

A: Be careful what you say as you can't unsay it

Q: What has life taught you?

A: Time is short

Q: How long have you been a writer?

A: Forever

Q: Where do you do your writing?

A: Anywhere and everywhere - often in cafes, or in my house where I have a lovely upstairs office packed with books and little treasures. It has French windows onto a roof garden/balcony and overlooks our garden and a field. Or I work downstairs in a room with windows all round and the library just through an archway. I can see the garden, with chickens bumbling around in it - very distracting!

Q: What is your most treasured possession?

A: A tiny model of a Venetian palazzo made from cardboard and blue velvet by my daughter - for me to have until she can afford to buy me a real palazzo in Venice!

Q: What's your favourite food?

A: Egg and chips as comfort food, or very good risotto the rest of the time

Q: What do you day dream about?

A: Being with the people I love in places I love

Q: What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?

A: Archaeologist or forensic anthropologist - I want to understand the lives of people who lived long ago and see how they were just like us and how they were different

Q: What is your favourite word?

A: Serendipity

Q: What are the best and worst things about being an author?

A: The best is hearing from a reader that they really enjoyed a book; the worst is when the writing is not going well or publishers don't want to publish what I want to write.

Q: Where do you get your greatest ideas from?

A: Waitrose. The ideas in Tesco are cheap and nasty.

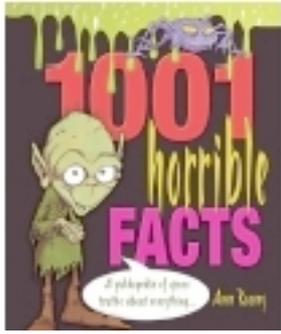
Q: What was your favourite book as a child?

A: Fin Family Moomintroll by Tove Jansen. And also La Chauve-souris Doré by Edward Gorey, and Toucan Toucan by David McKee. When I was a bit older, it was The Weirdstone of Brisingamen by Alan Garner.

Q: What advice would you give to aspiring authors?

A: Read lots, keep writing, read more, write more, keep reading, write lots...

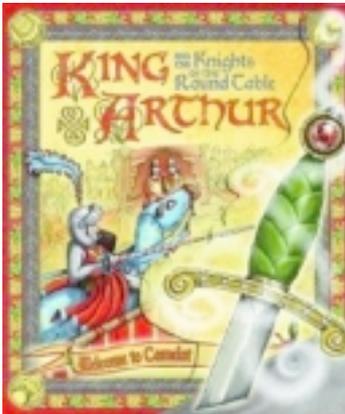
My Books



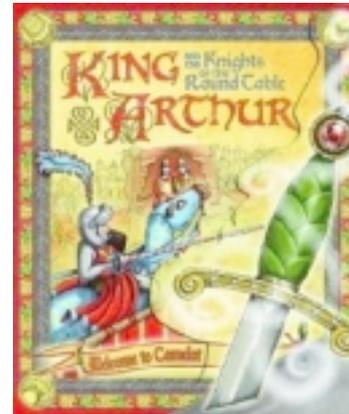
1001 Horrible Facts



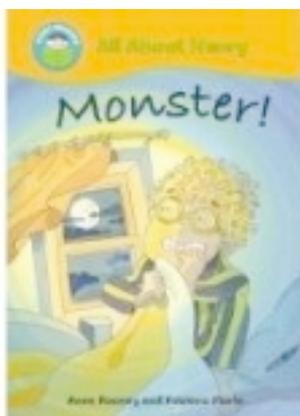
Soldier Boy



King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table
the Round Table



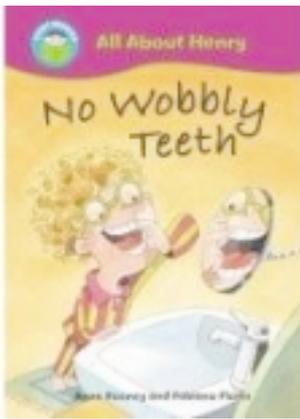
King Arthur and the Knights of



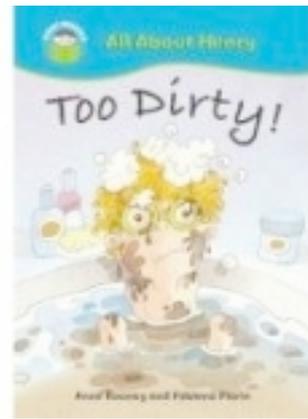
Monster!



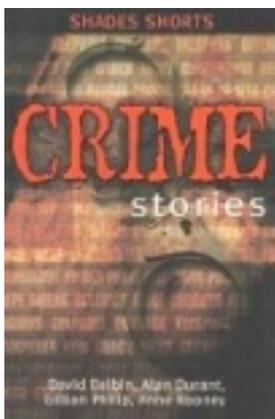
Muffin



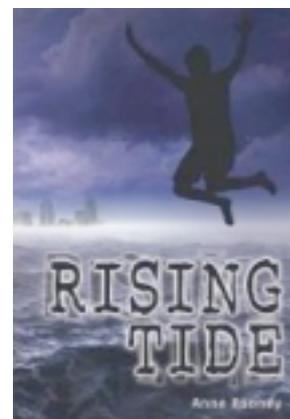
No Wobbly Teeth



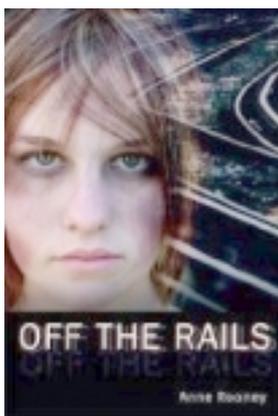
Too Dirty



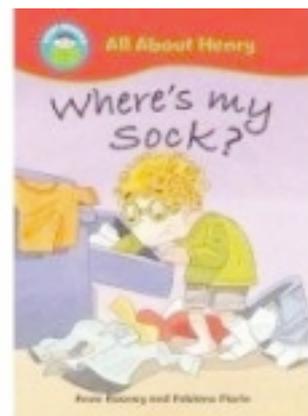
Crime stories



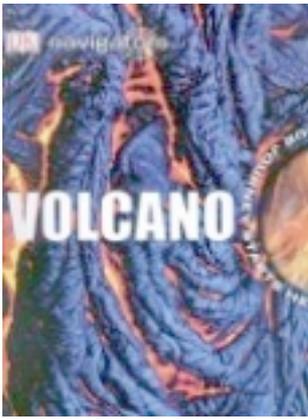
Rising Tide



Off the Rails



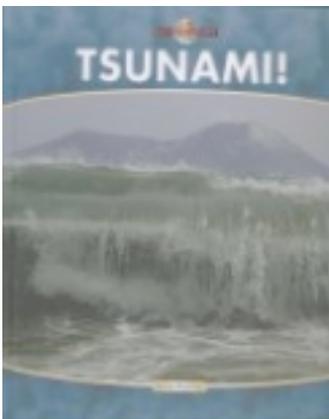
The Lost Sock



Volcano



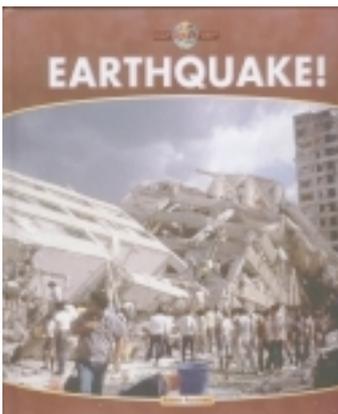
Monster in the Garden



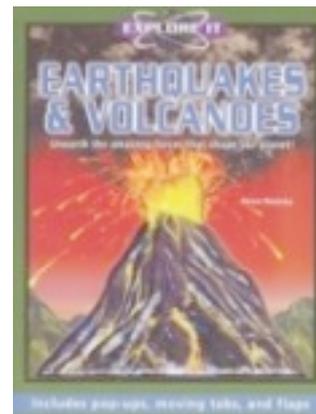
Tsunami!



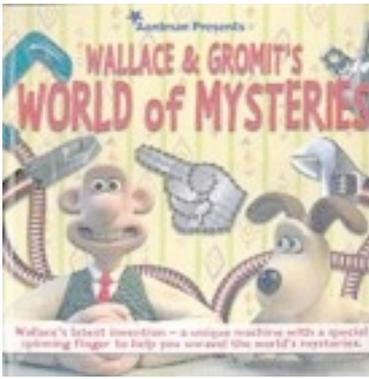
Hurricane!



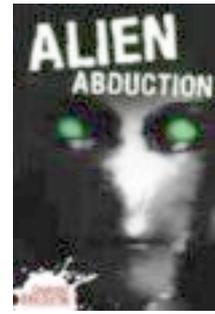
Earthquake!



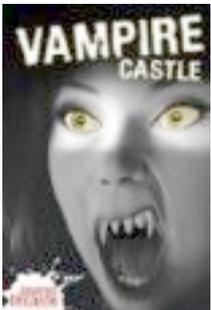
Earthquakes and Volcanoes



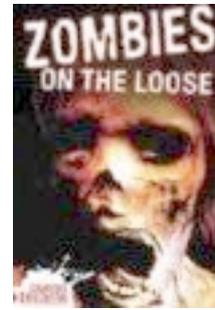
Wallace and Gromit's World of Mystery



Alien Abductions



Vampire Castle



Zombies on the Loose