



Cassia Thomas

Q: What were you like at school?

A: I was fairly average... apart from art, which was my best subject, and maths, which I was rubbish at!

I was so scared at admitting I couldn't do maths, that I remember trading work with a friend. I did her drawing, whilst she did my maths! I thought I was being enterprising, but I have a feeling my teacher thought otherwise!

I found out years later that I have dyslexia, which means I have a memory like a sieve and have difficulty working out instructions quickly and then keeping them in my head.

I still can't do my times tables, but I don't worry about it now. There's nothing stupid about asking if you don't know an answer, and EVERYTHING stupid about pretending you know if you don't!

Q: Which three words describe you best?

A: intense, silly, impatient

Q: What is your favourite word?

A: The french for dustbin is, 'poubelle'. That makes me chuckle.

I also like words that make your mouth feel nice when you say them; like 'grumble,' 'mumble,' and 'bzzzzzzzzzz!'

Q: What makes you cringe?

A: People (especially myself) saying thoughtless things, accidentally.

Me: 'I hate hats!'

(Said whilst standing next to someone, wearing a large and obvious hat!)

I'm always putting my foot in my mouth I'm afraid, and it never hesitates to make me squirm.

Q: What are you afraid of?

A: I used to be afraid of the dark. I'm not anymore... well, mostly, anyway!

Q: What is your most treasured possession?

A: I have a teddy bear who's head always turns back-to-front. He has a lot of fur missing, and he makes a growling sound if you tip him forward that actually sounds more like a bottom

burp! I've had him since I was little, and love him dearly.

Q: What do you do as a hobby?

A: I'm terrible at starting things, but not finishing them. Most of my hobbies are short-lived and leave various debris all over my house. I have knitting needles, a cello, a Chinese calligraphy set, and more- all gathering dust. I'm convinced that one day I'll set to and knit a wardrobe, compose a concerto and write tomorrow's most profound proverb. So far, no luck!

However, I have done martial arts (first Taekwondo, and then, Brazilian Jujitsu) for a couple of years. I'd go loopy without doing some sort of exercise, and I really enjoy the challenge of martial arts.

Q: What strange habits do you have?

A: Oh gosh, I'm not telling you those! You REALLY don't want to know!

Q: What's your favourite food?

A: cake and curries... although, possibly not together...!

Q: What do you day dream about?

A: everything and anything. I do draw pictures in my head an awful lot. If I see someone with an interesting face, I try to draw them in my head too. It's probably quite a rude habit really!

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

A: I like the idea of Child Psychology. The way people think is quite extraordinary, and extremely interesting.

Failing that, 'Cake Taster' sounds like a brilliant job to me!

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

A: This is a tricky one. What if they didn't live up to your expectations?

I'd love to have watched the artist, Egon Schiele, at work. However, I think I'd be far too nervous to talk to him.

Stephen Fry's rather marvellous too.

Q: What quality do you most admire in a person?

A: Hard work, ability to make others feel good about themselves, determination, and wit. Sorry, that's a few, isn't it?

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

A: Do your best. I think if you've done your best, whatever happens afterward, you can have no regrets.

Q: What has life taught you?

A: not to waste time. If you want something, even if it's hard or you're scared, get out there and go for it anyway!

Q: Where do you get your greatest ideas from?

A: all over the place, but they'll most likely come to me when I'm in the shower. Or during the other few moments, I don't have a pen to write them down! Grr!

Q: Which of your own characters do you most identify with?

A: I think all of them, really. My characters are mostly different versions of myself.

I like drawing the grumpy or naughty ones best though... and the monsters.

Q: What was your favourite book as a child?

A: 'Trouble For Trumpets'. The illustrations, by Peter Cross, were so elaborate and beautiful. I STILL think it's the best illustrated book I've ever seen. It'll stay with me always.

Q: What book do you wish you had written?

A: 'Where The Wild Things Are' is the perfect balance of story and pictures.

I'm an enormous Harry Potter fan too. I listen to Harry Potter audio books whenever I find drawing difficult. They always inspire me.

Q: What advice would you give to aspiring authors?

A: I think my advice to everyone would be to try, try and try again. Whatever career you want to go into, keep trying always.

The reward will be worth it.

I wouldn't change what I do for the world.

My Books



Lively Elizabeth



george and ghost

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