

# Steve Smallman



**Q: What were you like at school?**

**A: My school reports said things like, "Could try harder." and "Steven tends to mess around when he thinks no-one is looking."**

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

**A: A zoo keeper!**

**Q: Which three words describe you best?**

**A: Arty, friendly, caring**

**Q: What is your favourite word?**

**A: today it's 'squelchy'!**

**Q: What makes you cringe?**

**A: When my son gets a tattoo.  
When people shout at their children in public.  
Wire coathangers. (They're evil!)**

**Q: What are you afraid of?**

**A: Anything bad happening to my family**

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

**A: I laugh all the time**

**Q: What is your most treasured possession?**

**A: A box of old letters from my wife Ann.**

**Q: What do you do as a hobby?**

**A: Walking, gardening, watching films and TV.  
(But not in that order!)**

**Q: What strange habits do you have?**

**A: Too many to list!**

**Q: What's your favourite food?**

**A: Pork cassoulet! Yum!**

**Q: What do you day dream about?**

**A: Winning awards for my books!**

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

**A: I couldn't possibly write it down here!**

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

**A: TV presenting (if I wasn't so old!) or acting.**

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

**A: Younger!**

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

**A: Jim Henson**

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

**A: kindness**

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

**A: Rome**

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

**A: My careers advisor at school who suggested that I should try for a career in art, rather than be a zookeeper!**

**Q: What would you most like to change about yourself?**

**A: I'd like to be better organised and have nicer teeth!**

**Q: What has life taught you?**

**A: Money isn't everything**

**Q: How long have you been a writer?**

**A: about 13 years**

**Q: Was there a specific moment in your life when you decide to become a writer?**

**A: I was asked to write a few simple stories for a reading scheme that I was illustrating. I tried it, they liked them and I thought, "Hey, I can do this!"**

**Q: Where do you do your writing?**

**A: All over the place, now I've got a laptop**

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

**A: The best is when you hear that a book you've written is someone's favourite bedtime story.**

**The worst is when you've written something that you're really proud of and the publisher doesn't like it!**

**Q: Where do you get your greatest ideas from?**

**A: From small children especially my grandchildren!**

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

**A: Bob McGrew the zookeeper in Poo in the Zoo Love animals, not so keen on the pool!**

**Q: What do you do to combat "writers' block"?**

**A: I take the dogs for a walk and mull over the story in my head. Sometimes I say phrases out**

**loud and get odd looks from other people in the park!**

**Q: What was your favourite book as a child?**

**A: anything by Dr Seuss**

**Q: What book do you wish you had written?**

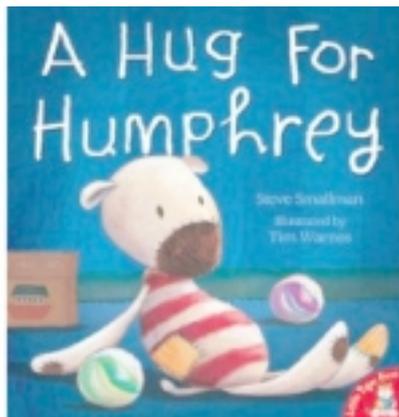
**A: Peace At Last by Jill Murphy because it was my children's favourite bedtime story.**

**Q: What advice would you give to aspiring authors?**

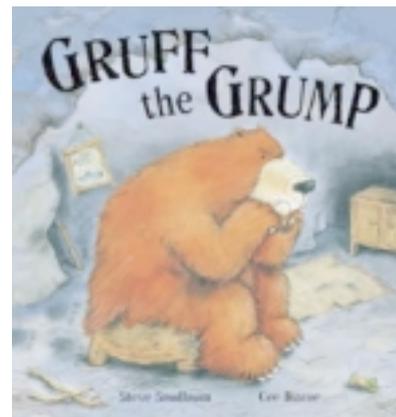
**A: Don't limit your imagination, let it loose and who knows where it will take you.**

**Don't be satisfied until what you've written is the best it can be. Enjoy yourself, if you don't enjoy writing it, who's going to enjoy reading it?**

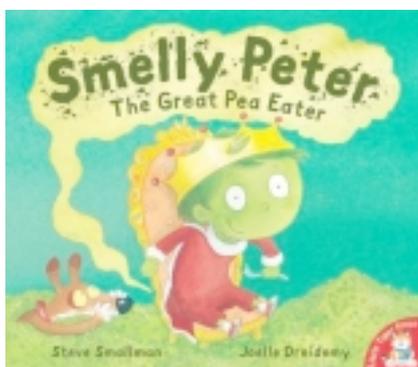
# My Books



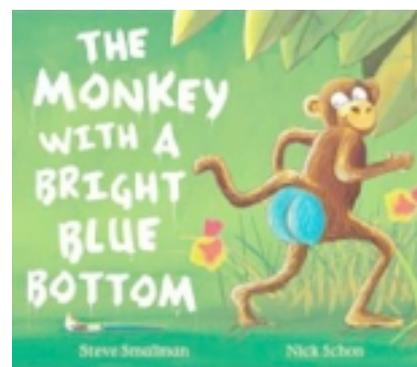
**A Hug for Humphrey**



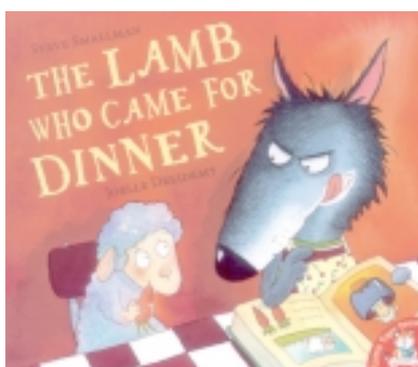
**Gruff the Grump**



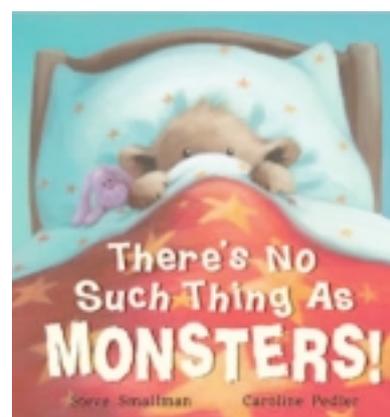
**Smelly Peter the Great Pea Eater Bottom**



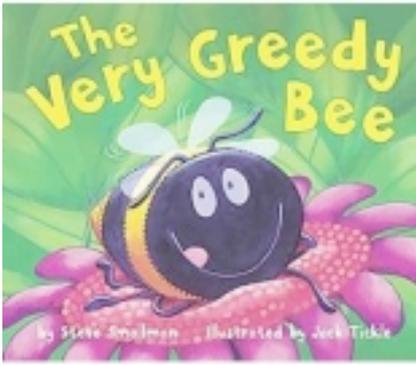
**The Monkey With A Bright Blue Bottom**



**The Lamb Who Came for Dinner  
Monsters**



**There's No Such Thing as**



## The Very Greedy Bee

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