

John Shelley



Q: What were you like at school?

A: Weedy, shy and lost in my own world. Excelled at art, was rubbish at Maths. I hated sports and any kind of competitive activity. Freckles, glasses, always carried a sketchbook around with me everywhere (still do!).

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

**A: 1) Spitfire pilot
2) Historian
3) Artist**

Q: Which three words describe you best?

A: handsome, charming, self-deluded.

Q: What makes you cringe?

A: insincerity

Q: What are you afraid of?

A: wasps

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

A: this morning

Q: What's your favourite food?

A: nabeyaki udon

Q: What do you day dream about?

A: the stars, things that could be, or could have been.

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

A: Marine Archaeology

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

A: I don't know what my current age is supposed to feel like, I do what I do, try not to think about age.

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

A: Napoleon Bonaparte.

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

A: to have a passion for life, a vision or goal, a strong personal direction and charisma

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

A: Less talk, more action

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

A: Less talk, more action

Q: What has life taught you?

A: Keep your eyes open and ears sharp. You never know what's waiting for you around the corner.

Q: How long have you been a writer?

A: A freelance illustrator since 1982, my first published story as an author was in 1983.

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

A: I decided to be an illustrator (rather than Fine Artist) after discovering work by Edwardian fairy tale masters while on holiday in Cornwall, aged 15.

Q: What was your favourite book as a child?

A: The Wind in the Willows

Q: Where do you do your writing?

A: At the moment I work at home. I come up with ideas while sat in cafe's or on a train.

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

A: acted in a Japanese TV drama, appeared in a TV ad with Konishiki

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

A: Japan, I lived there for over 20 years so I suppose I found it interesting!

Q: What strange habits do you have?

A: Being an ardent pedestrian, I refuse to learn to drive.

Q: What do you do as a hobby?

A: study history, follow music,

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

A: The best thing is undoubtedly the privilege of being able to express creativity, those precious moments when things just seem to come together naturally and I surprise even myself.

Worst thing is spilled ink (Doh! there it goes again).

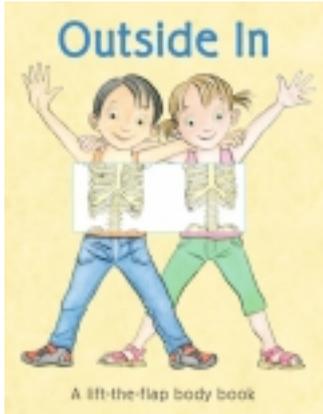
Q: Where do you get your greatest ideas from?

A: Partly from interaction with my daughter, but also from delving into my own past experiences and aspirations.

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

A: visit a bookshop or gallery

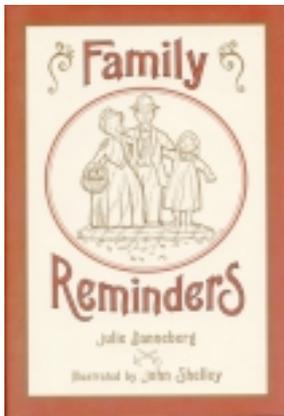
My Books



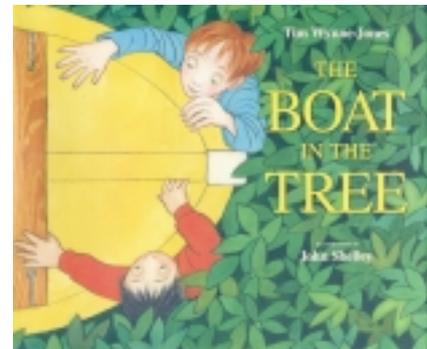
Outside-In



Nasty! (author: Michael Rosen)



Wynne-Jones)
Family Reminders (author: Julie Danneberg)



The Boat in the Tree (author: Tim



Midnight for Charlie Bone (author: Jenny Nimmo)



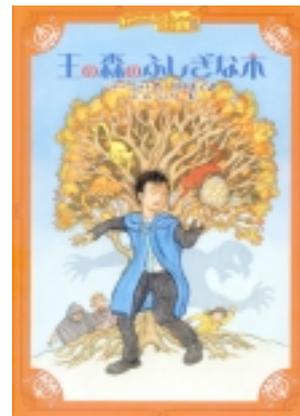
The Time Twister (Author: Jenny Nimmo)



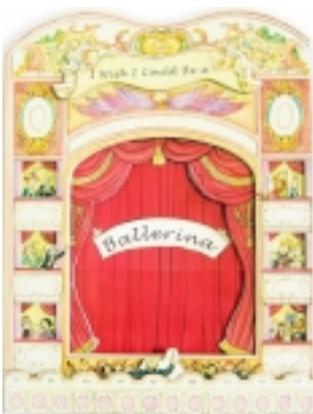
The Blue Boa (author: Jenny Nimmo)



The Castle of Mirrors (author: Jenny Nimmo)



The Hidden King (author: Jenny Nimmo)



I Wish I Could be a Ballerina (author: Rosie McCormick)



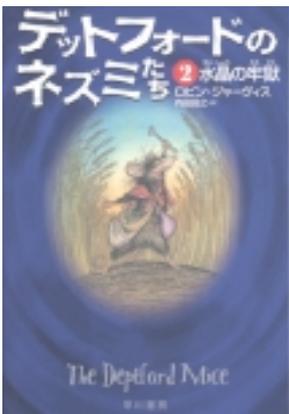
Kage (The Shadow) (author: Hans Christian Andersen) other tales) (author: Hans Christian Andersen)



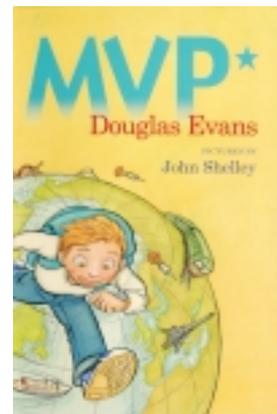
Yuki Daruma (The Snowman & 3



Hahaoya (Story of a Mother & The Fir Tree)(author: Hans Christian Andersen) (The Little Mermaid)(author: Hans Christian Andersen)



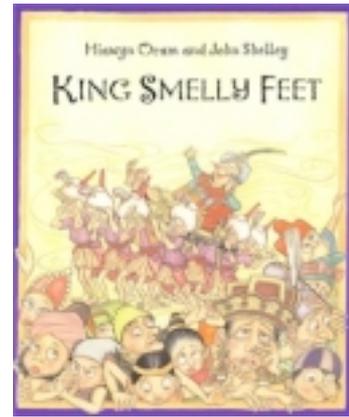
Deptford no Nezumitachi (The Deptford Mice Trilogy) (author: Douglas Evans)



MVP (author: Douglas Evans)



Hawaiian Big Daddy (author: Banbis Snowflower)
Oram)



King Smelly Feet (author: Hiawyn
Oram)



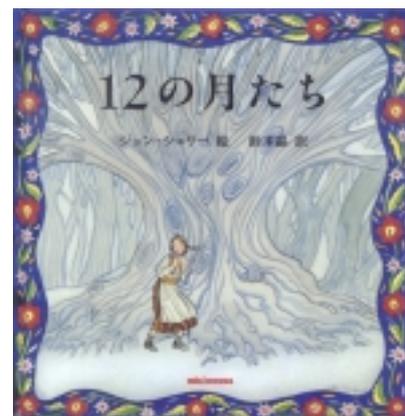
Maho no Kasa (The Magic Umbrella) (Author: Rose Fyleman, adapted by Eileen Colwell)



Cinderella (Author: Eileen Colwell)



Hoppy no Atarashii Uchi (author: John Shelley)
Brothers)



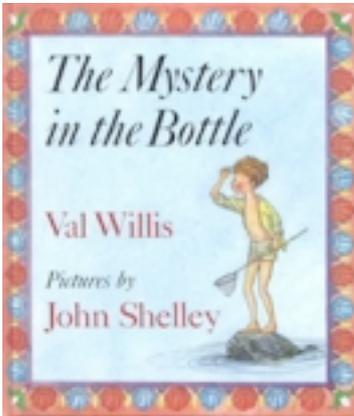
Ju -ni no Tsukitachi (The Month
Brothers)



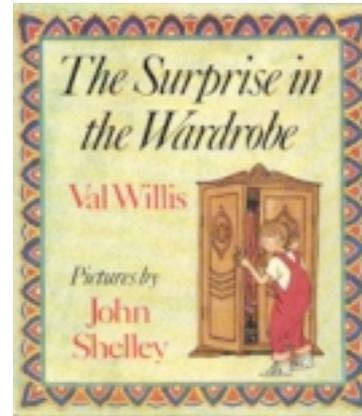
Peer Gynt (author: Heinrick Ibsen, abridged & trans. Hiroshi Sato) (author: John Shelley)



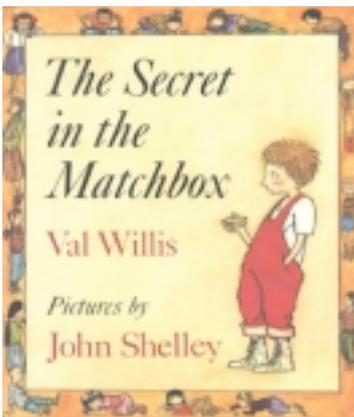
Santa ni yoroshiku (author: John Shelley)



The Mystery in the Bottle (author: Val Willis)
(author: Val Willis)



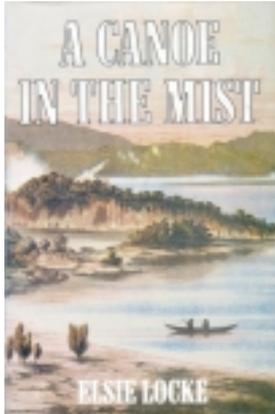
The Surprise in the Wardrobe



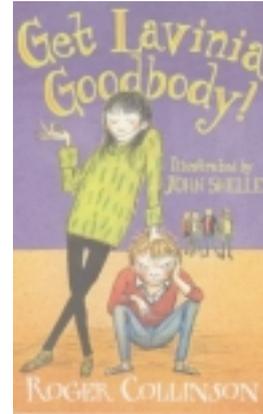
The Secret in the Matchbox (author: Val Willis)



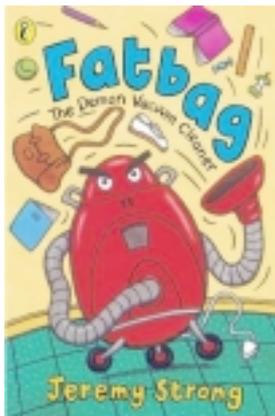
Night Eyes (author: Peter Ward)



**A Canoe in the Mist (author: Elsie Locke)
Roger Collinson)**



**Get Lavinia Goodbody! (author:
Roger Collinson)**



Fatbag (author: Jeremy Strong)