

**ENQUIRING MINDS**  
**EQM EP 10 SEG 1**

GIRL: When I grow up...

BOY: I would like to be an animator.

GIRL: A marine biologist.

GIRL: An artist.

BOY: A forensic scientist.

GIRL: A zoo keeper.

GIRL: I want to be a photographer.

BOY: A chef.

GIRL: An author.

BOY: Teacher.

BOY: A surfer.

BOY: Video game designer.

GIRL: A doctor.

GIRL: A fashion designer.

BOY: A builder, cartoonist or stunt man.

VOICE-OVER: Join our reporters as they check out some great jobs, meet interesting people, and go on some cool adventures. Enquiring Minds shows you that you can have fun while following your dreams through higher education.

SACHA: Hi and welcome to the show. On this episode Laura and Alisha roll up their sleeves and dig into the world of archaeology. But first, if you just love putting pen to paper then check out Bec and Sarah as they meet someone who has turned their passion for poetry into a career.

BEC: Do you ever write down your dreams or thoughts on a piece of paper or in a special book and share it with your friends and family later? I know someone who's really creative and imaginative. Let's go find her. Hi, you must be Sarah.

SARAH: Hello.

BEC: I'm Bec.

SARAH: Nice to meet you, Bec.

BEC: It's nice to meet you too. What are you doing here?

SARAH: I'm just writing my new fantasy story and thinking about the people who are going to be in it.

BEC: Awesome. So what things inspire you to write?

SARAH: Well I've always just loved writing. I find it really peaceful and it's just

really, really fun.

BEC: So you're writing a lot, I take it you also read a lot. What kind of books do you enjoy?

SARAH: Well I like to read JK Rowling, like the Harry Potter series. I read Andy Griffiths books.

BEC: I hear that you have an amazing collection of journals and books and stuff like that that you write in often?

SARAH: You want to come over and see them?

BEC: I sure do.

SARAH: So this is my room.

BEC: Oh wow, this is great. So this is where you create all of your amazing stories?

SARAH: Yeah.

BEC: What do we have here, what's this?

SARAH: Well this is my new adventure fantasy book about a number of girls who go on an adventure.

BEC: And so what's this book here? This is beautiful.

SARAH: Well this book I wrote when I was in Year 3 for a project I had to do.

BEC: Do you have other stuff that you've written?

SARAH: Yeah, I have this one's about an alien. This book is kind of like a remake of Monsters Inc. In this one there's a beetle.

BEC: Have you thought much about what you'd like to be when you grow up?

SARAH: Well yes, I really, really want to be a famous author that people look up to and I want to write books that make people happy and they enjoy them.

BEC: Well I know someone who's a really amazing writer and she is just the right person to inspire Sarah with her writing. I am taking Sarah to meet Johanna who runs the Red Room company that publishes poetry.

So here we are. Knock, knock.

JOHANNA: Hello.

BEC: Hello, Johanna.

JOHANNA: Hello.

BEC: This is Sarah. Sarah, this is Johanna.

JOHANNA: Hi, Sarah. Nice to meet you, thank you for coming.

SARAH: Are you working on anything interesting at the moment?

JOHANNA: Well we are, I think it's interesting, we're doing a project that gets people to write poems and then we put those poems on to a new iPhone app and all of the poems have to be inspired by the theme or the words "the

disappearing". So people are writing all sorts of poems about trees that are disappearing, memories that are disappearing. What do you think is disappearing if you hear that word?

SARAH: Yeah, I would have thought of the trees and all the nature stuff and all the animals that are going extinct.

JOHANNA: Yeah, there's a lot about animals.

BEC: To show us how the disappearing act works we pay a visit to the oldest part of the city.

JOHANNA: So this space that we're going to here is Susanna Place Museum and we chose a poet to write a poem about this place and the Rocks area generally because it's got so much history and if we were interested in this place here we'd try and go on the map and find the poem that relates to Susanna Place. "Dearest P, all sailors get paid at once, watch them and you will see exactly how cash moves - vibrant and dead." Because this area, a lot of the disappearing stories were about a lot of the sailors that used to come down here and work on the wharf and at the Rocks so that's what her poem's about.

So here we are in this place Susanna Place Museum and I think this room in particular is such a great one for inspiration for poems. So when you look around what sort of things do you see that you could imagine writing about because there's all sorts of things to do with the disappearing as well. What do you think?

SARAH: Maybe the clock.

JOHANNA: Yeah, because time itself is disappearing, isn't it? All the time.

SARAH: Yeah.

JOHANNA: That's a good one. I wonder how people lived here, what do you reckon?

SARAH: I don't know, it doesn't seem like a very big area.

JOHANNA: That would actually be a really good thing to write about, imagining the family that was here but who have now disappeared, quite an interesting poem, I think.

BEC: Next stop on our literary tour is the Sydney Writer's Festival attended by famous author. It's a great chance to hear writers tell their stories and what inspires them.

So, Sarah, this is the Sydney Writer's Festival. This is where all the famous authors come in Australia to talk about their latest works. So let's go have a look around and see who we can find.

I know Sarah will be pumped when we find our mystery man. He's one of Sarah's writing heroes. It's Andy Griffiths! He's the author of the Just series of humorous kids' books.

ANDY: What's your name?

CALLUM: Callum.

ANDY: Callum, great to meet you.

WOMAN: Take it away, Andy Griffiths.

BEC: Besides the book signings, Andy's also talking to a packed hall of fans.

ANDY: The story that's been much misunderstood is 'The Bad Mummy and the Busy Six-Lane Highway' and I say it's misunderstood because everyone doesn't see the fact that bad mummy and the very busy six-lane highway, they always start with the kid asking to do the forbidden thing. "Mummy, can I ran across this very busy six-lane highway with my eyes shut?" And the mother says, "Well, I don't know." And he says, "Please." And she says, "Mm." And he goes, "Pretty please?" And she says, "Alright, but be careful." And he says, "Yay, say ready, set, go." And so there he is crouched on the side of the road with the mother actually counting him down now, "Ready, set, go." And he takes off, runs onto the road and there's screech, slam, crash and he gets hit by a car and the mother just says, "Oops" and walks away.

BEC: Andy's chat takes us on an incredible ride through the history behind his hilarious books.

WOMAN: Will you please thank Andy Griffiths.

BEC: Sarah and I are disappointed when Andy's talk is over but there's no better way to celebrate a festival than with a pair of backstage passes. Now all we have to do is find Andy. Hi.

ANDY: Hello.

BEC: Andy, we found the right dressing room.

ANDY: Yes.

BEC: This is Sarah.

ANDY: Hi, Sarah, how are you?

SARAH: Hi. Good, thanks. Can I ask you a few questions?

ANDY: Sure, sure, I'm not doing anything, come in.

SARAH: When did you start writing?

ANDY: When I was 5 or 6 I was already making little books and a get well card for my dad but it was a cheery little thing. It said, "Dear Dad, get well soon" and you turned the page and it said, "Or you are doomed." And then he turned the page and it showed him being dropped into a hole in the ground. A lot of the things I do now are not much different to that little effort.

SARAH: What sort of books did you write as a kid?

ANDY: They were usually funny and like the get well cards that became a continuing thing whenever anyone would get sick I'd write them a threatening get well card back. But then I had a book that I started when I was in Grade 6 one day when I was home sick from school. I got an exercise book and I started cutting out pieces of like amusing photos from the paper and particularly gory horror movie ads that I found fascinating and I would stick them in the book and I would draw things on them and would make notes. And then I started writing down jokes that I like, and then short stories, I would copy some of those out and I didn't know it but I was making a writing journal where it's a big bucket for stuff to go into and it becomes inspiring when you look back at it and you go "Oh, yeah" and great ideas come out of that.

SARAH: Did you go to university and how did it help you as an author?

ANDY: Yes, I went to university for five years, I did a Bachelor of Arts course with an honours degree in English literature and I got to read the entire history of English literature over those five years. It was just fantastic education in what all these different writers had done at different periods of history. You can't get a better grounding as a writer than that. Well, good luck with your writing, Sarah. Sign that for you. You're good to go.

SARAH: Thank you.

ANDY: That's a pleasure, thank you.

SACHA: Wow, what a day Bec had and I hope meeting those writers has inspired Sarah to keep writing and just maybe you might see her name on the cover of a book in your library.

Up next – Laura and Alisha find the best way to learn about our history is to dig it up.

END OF TRANSCRIPT