

diana wynne jones interview

Diana Wynne Jones Interview: Exploring the Mind Behind Beloved Fantasy Worlds

diana wynne jones interview sessions offer a rare glimpse into the creative genius of one of fantasy literature's most cherished authors. Known for her imaginative storytelling, witty narrative style, and complex characters, Jones has inspired countless readers and writers alike. If you've ever wondered about the inspirations behind her stories, her writing process, or her views on fantasy as a genre, diving into her interviews reveals fascinating insights that enrich the reading experience.

The Charm of Diana Wynne Jones Interviews

Diana Wynne Jones interviews stand out because they capture the warmth and humor that permeate her writing. Unlike some authors who keep their creative process shrouded in mystery, Jones was notably open and engaging when discussing her work. Whether the conversation touched on her beloved Chrestomanci series or her standalone novels like "Howl's Moving Castle," she often spoke with a playful yet thoughtful tone that made her fans feel connected to her creative world.

Why Fans Treasure These Conversations

Readers often find that interviews with Diana Wynne Jones shed light on the motivations behind her characters and the intricate world-building that defines her books. Fans appreciate how she discusses her influences, ranging from classic fairy tales to contemporary issues, weaving them seamlessly into her narratives. Moreover, her reflections on the challenges and joys of writing fantasy provide encouragement for aspiring authors navigating the genre.

Insights from Diana Wynne Jones Interview Sessions

One of the most compelling aspects of Diana Wynne Jones interview transcripts is how she breaks down her storytelling approach. She emphasized the importance of originality and playfulness, often encouraging writers to "write what you would enjoy reading." This advice echoes throughout many interviews, underlining her belief that passion fuels creativity.

On Writing Fantasy with a Twist

Jones's work is famous for subverting traditional fantasy tropes, and her interviews reveal her conscious effort to surprise readers. She explained that she liked to "turn clichés inside out" to keep stories fresh and unpredictable. This approach not only entertains but also invites readers to question familiar narratives and themes, offering a richer literary experience.

The Role of Humor and Wit

Another recurring theme in Diana Wynne Jones interviews is her use of humor. She believed fantasy didn't have to be solemn or overly serious and that laughter could be a powerful tool in storytelling. Her witty dialogue and quirky situations often serve to deepen character relationships and lighten complex plots, making her books accessible to both younger and adult audiences.

Unpacking the Creative Process through Diana Wynne Jones Interview Highlights

For writers and fans curious about the nuts and bolts of her craft, Diana Wynne Jones interviews often touch on her daily routines and inspirations. She mentioned that ideas frequently came from everyday observations and a vivid imagination that "never really turned off." Unlike some authors who meticulously plot every detail, Jones admitted to a more organic approach, letting stories evolve naturally while keeping key themes in mind.

Tips for Aspiring Fantasy Writers

From these interviews, several practical tips emerge for those looking to follow in her footsteps:

- **Embrace originality:** Don't be afraid to challenge genre conventions and bring your unique voice to the table.
- **Keep the fun alive:** Writing should be enjoyable; if you're having fun, your readers will too.
- **Develop complex characters:** Characters with depth and contradictions make stories more engaging and believable.
- **Read widely:** Exposure to different styles and genres broadens your creative horizons.

Diana Wynne Jones Interview: Legacy and Influence

Interviews with Diana Wynne Jones not only capture her individual brilliance but also highlight her impact on the fantasy genre as a whole. Numerous contemporary authors cite her as a key influence, praising her ability to blend magical elements with real-world issues. Her candid discussions about the challenges of publishing and the evolution of fantasy literature provide valuable context for understanding her legacy.

Reflections on Fantasy's Evolution

In several interviews, Jones expressed fascination with how fantasy was expanding beyond traditional boundaries. She welcomed new voices and ideas, believing the genre's strength lay in its diversity. Her own work often explored themes like identity, power, and family dynamics, demonstrating fantasy's capacity to address profound human experiences.

Engagement with Fans and Readers

One of the most endearing qualities captured in Diana Wynne Jones interviews is her appreciation for her readers. She often shared anecdotes about fan letters and conventions, highlighting the mutual admiration between author and audience. This connection helped sustain her creative energy and inspired her to keep crafting stories that resonate across generations.

Where to Find Diana Wynne Jones Interviews

For those eager to explore these interviews, several sources offer rich material:

- **Literary magazines and journals:** Many conducted in-depth interviews during the peak of her career.
- **Video and audio recordings:** Some conventions and author talks have been archived online, providing a more personal experience.
- **Books and anthologies:** Collections of author interviews sometimes include conversations with Jones, offering curated insights.

Exploring these resources can deepen your appreciation for her work and offer inspiration for your own creative pursuits.

Diana Wynne Jones interview sessions continue to be a source of inspiration and joy for readers, writers, and fantasy enthusiasts. Through her candid reflections, she invites us into the enchanting worlds she created and encourages us to embrace imagination without limits. Whether you're revisiting her novels or discovering them for the first time, the wisdom shared in these interviews enhances the magic that defines her legacy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Diana Wynne Jones and why are her interviews significant?

Diana Wynne Jones was a British author known for her imaginative fantasy novels for children and young adults. Her interviews are significant because they provide insight into her creative process, themes, and the development of her beloved stories.

Where can I find interviews of Diana Wynne Jones?

Interviews of Diana Wynne Jones can be found in various literary magazines, recorded video or audio interviews online, and in special edition books or collections dedicated to her work. Some fan sites and archives also host transcripts and recordings.

What topics did Diana Wynne Jones commonly discuss in her interviews?

In her interviews, Diana Wynne Jones often discussed her inspiration for writing, her views on fantasy literature, the importance of humor and wit in her stories, and her thoughts on the publishing industry and writing for children versus adults.

Did Diana Wynne Jones talk about the creation of the 'Howl's Moving Castle' series in her interviews?

Yes, Diana Wynne Jones frequently discussed the 'Howl's Moving Castle' series in her interviews, sharing insights about the characters, the magical world she created, and how the books were adapted into other media like the popular animated film by Studio Ghibli.

Are there any interviews where Diana Wynne Jones gives advice to aspiring writers?

Yes, in several interviews, Diana Wynne Jones offered valuable advice to aspiring writers, emphasizing the importance of reading widely, developing a strong imagination, and writing consistently. She also encouraged writers to be honest and true to their own voice.

How did Diana Wynne Jones describe her writing style in interviews?

Diana Wynne Jones described her writing style as blending humor, complex characters, and inventive plots. She aimed to challenge traditional fantasy tropes and enjoyed mixing everyday life with magical elements to create unique and engaging stories.

Additional Resources

Diana Wynne Jones Interview: Insights into a Fantasy Literature Legend

diana wynne jones interview sessions have long been a source of fascination for fans and scholars alike, shedding light on the creative mind behind some of the most beloved fantasy novels of the late 20th century. Known for her intricate plots, whimsical narratives, and sharp wit, Jones's interviews reveal the depth of her storytelling philosophy and the unique way she approached the fantasy genre. This article delves into various interviews with Diana Wynne Jones, exploring her perspectives on writing, fantasy literature, and the broader cultural impact of her work.

Understanding Diana Wynne Jones Through Her Interviews

Diana Wynne Jones's interviews offer a rare glimpse into the thought processes that shaped her stories. Unlike many authors who focus solely on their works, Jones often discussed themes, character development, and the role of fantasy in literature and society. These interviews are invaluable for understanding not just her books but also the evolution of fantasy fiction over the decades.

In numerous interviews, Jones emphasized her desire to write stories that challenged conventional fairy tale tropes. She often spoke about the importance of subverting expectations, which is evident in works like **Howl's Moving Castle** and **Charmed Life**. Her narrative style, characterized by playful yet complex world-building, became a hallmark of her writing.

The Creative Process and Inspirations

One of the recurring topics in Diana Wynne Jones interview transcripts is her creative process. Jones described writing as an organic experience, often starting with a vague idea or a character and allowing the plot to unfold naturally. This approach contrasts with rigid plotting methods favored by some authors and highlights her adaptability and imaginative freedom.

She also discussed her literary influences, which ranged from classic fairy tales and mythology to contemporary science fiction and fantasy writers. For instance, Jones cited the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and E. Nesbit as significant inspirations, yet she was keen to distinguish her style as more playful and subversive compared to Tolkien's epic tone.

Perspectives on Fantasy Literature

In her interviews, Diana Wynne Jones articulated a nuanced view of fantasy literature's role in culture. She argued that fantasy is not merely escapism but a vital means of exploring human nature and societal norms. By creating alternate realities, authors can probe complex issues in a way that straightforward narratives often cannot.

Jones was also aware of the challenges fantasy writers face in balancing accessibility with depth. She believed that fantasy should be approachable for younger readers yet offer layers of meaning for adults. This dual appeal is a reason her books have sustained popularity across generations.

Themes Explored in Diana Wynne Jones Interview Discussions

Thematic analysis in Diana Wynne Jones interview content reveals her fascination with identity, transformation, and the subversion of traditional roles. Many of her characters grapple with self-discovery and challenge societal expectations, reflecting Jones's interest in personal growth and empowerment.

Subversion of Gender Roles

Jones's interviews often touch upon her deliberate choice to challenge gender stereotypes. Female characters in her novels are frequently portrayed as strong, independent, and complex, defying the passive princess archetype prevalent in classic fairy tales. This progressive stance was ahead of its time and resonates with contemporary feminist discourse.

The Intersection of Magic and Reality

Another significant theme in Jones's interviews is the blending of the magical and the mundane. She described her worlds as "slightly off-kilter," where magic coexists with everyday life, providing a familiar yet enchanting setting. This technique enables readers to relate to the characters while enjoying the fantastical elements.

Impact and Legacy Reflected in Interviews

Diana Wynne Jones interview archives not only reflect her personal insights but also highlight her enduring influence on fantasy literature. Many contemporary authors cite her as a formative influence, praising her innovative storytelling and character development.

Comparisons with Contemporary Fantasy Authors

When compared with her peers, Jones's work stands out for its humor and narrative complexity. Interviews reveal that she was conscious of the rising popularity of fantasy during the 1980s and 1990s but sought to maintain originality rather than follow trends. This commitment helped her work remain distinctive amid a crowded literary field.

Adaptations and Their Reception

Jones's interviews sometimes address the adaptations of her work, most notably the acclaimed Studio Ghibli film **Howl's Moving Castle**. She expressed a mixture of admiration and critical distance regarding adaptations, appreciating how they brought her stories to new audiences while recognizing the inherent differences between mediums.

Why Diana Wynne Jones Interview Content Remains Relevant

The continued interest in Diana Wynne Jones interview material underscores the significance of her contributions to literature. For writers, readers, and scholars, these interviews serve as guides to understanding the mechanics of fantasy writing and the creative challenges involved.

- **Educational Value:** Aspiring authors gain insights into storytelling

techniques and the importance of originality.

- **Cultural Context:** Interviews provide a historical perspective on the evolution of fantasy literature.
- **Fan Engagement:** Fans enjoy a deeper connection with the author's personality and creative intentions.

Challenges Discussed in Interviews

Jones candidly spoke about the difficulties of sustaining a writing career, including the pressures of deadlines, publishing industry demands, and balancing personal life with creative work. These reflections add a humanizing dimension to her public persona, making her experiences relatable to many in the literary field.

Her Views on Writing for Children vs. Adults

In many interviews, Diana Wynne Jones distinguished between writing for children and adults, emphasizing that she never wrote "down" to children but rather respected their intelligence and curiosity. This philosophy helped her craft stories that appeal across age groups and remain relevant decades after publication.

Exploring Diana Wynne Jones interview archives uncovers a multifaceted portrait of an author who revolutionized fantasy literature through wit, innovation, and empathy. Her thoughtful reflections on storytelling, genre conventions, and the writer's craft continue to inspire and inform readers and creators worldwide. Whether delving into the mechanics of her narrative style or discussing broader thematic concerns, these interviews offer an indispensable resource for understanding the legacy of one of fantasy's most cherished voices.

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diana wynne jones interview: Charmed Life, Sample Chapter Diana Wynne Jones, 2000

diana wynne jones interview: Diana Wynne Jones Farah Mendlesohn, 2013-09-13 British author Diana Wynne Jones has been writing speculative fiction for children for more than thirty years. A clear influence on more recent writers such as J. K. Rowling, her humorous and exciting stories of wizard's academies, dragons, and griffins-many published for children but read by all ages-are also complexly structured and thought provoking critiques of the fantasy tradition. This is the first serious study of Jones's work, written by a renowned science fiction critic and historian. In addition to providing an overview of Jones's work, Farah Mendlesohn also examines Jones's important critiques of the fantastic tradition's ideas about childhood and adolescence. This book will be of interest to Jones's many admirers and to those who study fantasy and children's literature.

diana wynne jones interview: Four British Fantasists Charles Butler, 2006-04-25 *Four British Fantasists* explores the work of four of the most successful and influential fantasy writers of the generation who rose to prominence in the second Golden Age of children's literature in Britain: Susan Cooper, Alan Garner, Diana Wynne Jones, and Penelope Lively. Drawing on history, archeology, social geography, anthropology, and postcolonial theory, as well as literary criticism, Butler provides a series of new perspectives through which to view these writers' achievements. He begins by highlighting some points of biographic coincidence (e.g. all four authors were children during WWII, all were born within a year or two of each other, and all attended Oxford University in the early 1950s-when C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien were publishing their seminal fantasies) and questions if these factors play any significant role in the development of these fantasy writers. The author then uses this question as the springboard for a case study in the assessment of biographical and literary influence. The book also considers the role played by Britain itself in determining the shape and preoccupations of these writers' fiction. Britain is a land with a long history in which contemporary life is constantly juxtaposed with evidence of the past in the form of ancient buildings, historic sites, and archeological remains. By placing the work of Cooper, Garner, Jones, and Lively in the context of British culture and of their own time, Butler provides a key to their fascination with history, mythology, and magic, and to the ways in which that fascination has found expression in their fiction. Students of children's literature and of fantasy literature as well as readers who are interested in the lives of these four subject authors will find this an insightful read.

diana wynne jones interview: Humor in Young Adult Literature Walter Hogan, 2005

Celebrates the accomplishments of YA authors acclaimed for producing high-quality comedies, who have not yet been treated in a book-length bio-critical study. Simultaneously, it reminds readers that no matter how funny an author of fiction may be, if he shows off his wit in ways that fail to play a natural role in advancing his narrative, he is not writing good fiction. To demonstrate this, humorous passages are presented to illustrate the contribution a sense of humor can make to a work of fiction. The book is arranged topically to facilitate a comparison of distinctive treatments by various authors of adolescent life events, such as sibling rivalry, bullies, and first dates.

diana wynne jones interview: British Children's Literature in Japanese Culture Catherine Butler, 2023-09-21 Whether watching Studio Ghibli adaptations of British children's books, visiting Harry Potter sites in Britain or eating at Alice in Wonderland-themed restaurants in Tokyo, the Japanese have a close and multifaceted relationship with British children's literature. In this, the first comprehensive study to explore this engagement, Catherine Butler considers its many manifestations in print, on the screen, in tourist locations and throughout Japanese popular culture. Taking stock of the influence of literary works such as *Gulliver's Travels*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, *Tom's Midnight Garden*, and the *Harry Potter* series, this lively account draws on literary criticism, translation, film and tourist studies to explore how British children's books have been selected, translated, understood, adapted and reworked into Japanese commercial, touristic and imaginative culture. Using theoretically informed case studies this book will consider both individual texts and their wider cultural contexts, translations and adaptations (such as the numerous adaptations of British children's books by Studio Ghibli and others), the dissemination of distinctive tropes such as magical schools into Japanese children's literature and

popular culture, and the ways in which British children's books and their settings have become part of way that Japanese people understand Britain itself.

diana wynne jones interview: Diana Wynne Jones Teya Rosenberg, 2002 Diana Wynne Jones: An Exciting and Exacting Wisdom is a collection of scholarly essays examining the work of British author Diana Wynne Jones, whose prolific contributions to speculative fiction span the past thirty years. A contemporary of such well known fantastic authors as Alan Garner and Susan Cooper, Jones is also a clear influence on more recent writers such as J. K. Rowling. Her humorous and exciting stories, many published for children but read by all ages, are also complexly structured and thought provoking. These essays - written by academics and independent scholars from Australia, North America, Europe, and Asia - present a wide variety of approaches to and ideas about Jones's work. This book will be of interest to Jones's many admirers and to those who study or appreciate speculative fiction and children's literature.

diana wynne jones interview: Reflections Diana Wynne Jones, 2012-05-03 Diana Wynne Jones is best-known for her novels and stories - of magical fantasy - written mainly for children. She received a World Fantasy Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2007, as well as two Mythopoeic Awards and the Guardian Fiction Award for Charmed Life. But she was also a witty, entertaining speaker, a popular guest at science fiction and fantasy conventions and an engaged, scholarly critic of writing that interested her. This collection of more than twenty-five papers, chosen by Diana herself, includes fascinating literary criticism (such as a study of narrative structure in *The Lord of the Rings* and a ringing endorsement of the value of learning Anglo Saxon) alongside autobiographical anecdotes about reading tours (including an account of her famous travel jinx), revelations about the origins of her books, and thoughts in general about the life of an author and the value of writing. The longest autobiographical piece, 'Something About the Author', details Diana's extraordinary childhood and is illustrated with family photographs. *Reflections* is essential reading for anyone interested in Diana's works, fantasy or creative writing. The collection features a foreword by Neil Gaiman and an introduction and interview by Charlie Butler, a respected expert on fantasy writing.

diana wynne jones interview: Reflections Diana Wynne Jones, 2012-09-25 This collection of more than twenty-five critical essays, speeches, and biographical pieces chosen by Diana Wynne Jones before her death in 2011 is essential reading for the author's many fans and for students and teachers of the fantasy genre and creative writing in general. The volume includes insightful literary criticism alongside autobiographical anecdotes, revelations about the origins of the author's books, and reflections about the life of an author and the value of writing for young people. *Reflections* features the author's final interview, a foreword by award-winning author Neil Gaiman, and an introduction by Charlie Butler, a senior lecturer in English at the University of West England in Bristol.

diana wynne jones interview: Reading Matters Ulrich Marzolph, 2023 The present book is a special gift for a special colleague and friend. Defined as an "Unfestschrift," it gives colleagues, students, and friends of Regina Bendix an opportunity to express their esteem for Regina's inspiration, cooperation, leadership, and friendship in an adequate and lasting manner. The title of the present book, *Reading Matters*, is as close as possible to an English equivalent of the beautiful German double entendre *Erlesenes* (meaning both "something read/a reading" and "something exquisite"). Presenting "matters for reading," the *Unfestschrift* unites short contributions about "readings" that "mattered" in some way or another for the contributors, readings that had an impact on their understanding of whatever they were at some time or presently are interested in. The term "readings" is understood widely. Since most of the invited contributors are academics, the term implies, in the first place, readings of an academic or scholarly nature. In a wider notion, however, "readings" also refer to any other piece of literature, the perception of a piece of art (a painting, a sculpture, a performance), listening to music, appreciating a "folkloric" performance or a fieldwork experience, or just anything else whose "reading" or individual perception has been meaningful for the contributors in different ways. Contrary to a strictly scholarly treatment of a given topic in which

the author often disappears behind the subject, the presentations unveil and highlight the contributor's personal involvement, and thus a dimension of crucial importance for ethnographers such as the dedicatee.

diana wynne jones interview: Ghibliverse Jake Cunningham, Michael Leader, 2024-10-10 Step beyond the magical movies and explore the wider world of Studio Ghibli. Hailed as perhaps the greatest animation studio in the world, Studio Ghibli's influence extends far further than the cinema screen. Ghibliverse plots a course through the universe outside the films, the wonderful web of inspiration and influences that are ripe and waiting for Ghibli fans to enjoy. From manga and rare movies to forgotten television series and brand new theme parks, and from literary masterpieces and rival studios to soundtracks and secret short films, expert authors and hosts of the hit Ghibliotheque podcast Michael Leader and Jake Cunningham show that the magic doesn't stop when the film credits roll.

diana wynne jones interview: Literary Studies Deconstructed Catherine Butler, 2018-05-22 Literary Studies Deconstructed critiques the state of Literary Studies in the modern university and argues for its comprehensive reconstruction. It argues that Literary Studies as currently practised avoids engaging with much of literary experience and prioritises instead the needs of critics as a professional community: to teach and assess students, to demonstrate the creation of knowledge, and to meet the demands of governments, funders and other bodies. The result is that many areas centrally important to lay readers are largely omitted from critical discussion. Moreover, critical writing and its conventions are framed so as to mask and repress the subject's contradictions. This lively and provocative book will be of interest to undergraduate and postgraduate students with an interest in the critical profession or literary theory, as well as to Literary Studies academics.

diana wynne jones interview: Studio Ghibli Animation as Adaptations Dominic J. Nardi, Keli Fancher, 2025-05-15 This collection investigates how Hayao Miyazaki, Isao Takahata, and other Studio Ghibli storytellers have approached the process of reimagining literary sources for animation. Studio Ghibli is renowned for its original storytelling in films like *My Neighbor Totoro*, but many of its most famous films, including *Howl's Moving Castle* and *Ponyo*, have their origins in pre-existing novels, manga, or fairy tales. Studio Ghibli's adaptations seldom directly translate source material to animation, but instead transform the works to incorporate themes or imagery central to the studio's sensibilities. *Studio Ghibli Animation as Adaptations* explores how these adaptations often blur genre boundaries and raise questions about what constitutes fidelity to source material. The collection also shows how the studio reinterprets and recontextualizes stories across cultures for Japanese audiences and across mediums like manga.

diana wynne jones interview: Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy Robin Anne Reid, 2008-12-30 Works of science fiction and fantasy increasingly explore gender issues, feature women as central characters, and are written by women writers. This book examines women's contributions to science fiction and fantasy across a range of media and genres, such as fiction, nonfiction, film, television, art, comics, graphic novels, and music. The first volume offers survey essays on major topics, such as sexual identities, fandom, women's writing groups, and feminist spirituality; the second provides alphabetically arranged entries on more specific subjects, such as Hindu mythology, Toni Morrison, magical realism, and Margaret Atwood. Entries are written by expert contributors and cite works for further reading, and the set closes with a selected, general bibliography. Students and general readers love science fiction and fantasy. And science fiction and fantasy works increasingly explore gender issues, feature women as central characters, and are written by women writers. Older works demonstrate attitudes toward women in times past, while more recent works grapple with contemporary social issues. This book helps students use science fiction and fantasy to understand the contributions of women writers, the representation of women in the media, and the experiences of women in society.

diana wynne jones interview: Children's Literature Abstracts , 1993

diana wynne jones interview: Reading History in Children's Books Catherine Butler, Hallie O'Donovan, 2012-07-17 This book offers a critical account of historical books about Britain written

for children, including realist novels, non-fiction, fantasy and alternative histories. It also investigates the literary, ideological and philosophical challenges involved in writing about the past, especially for an audience whose knowledge of history is often limited.

diana wynne jones interview: Charmed Life Diana Wynne Jones, 2009-10-13 A bewitching comic fantasy by a master of the supernatural Cat doesn't mind living in the shadow of his sister, Gwendolen, the most promising young witch ever seen on Coven Street. But trouble starts brewing the moment the two orphans are summoned to live in Chrestomanci Castle. Frustrated that the witches of the castle refuse to acknowledge her talents, Gwendolen conjures up a scheme that could throw whole worlds out of whack.

diana wynne jones interview: A Short History of Fantasy Farah Mendlesohn, Edward James, 2012-06-27 Some of the earliest books ever written, including *The Epic of Gilgamesh* and the *Odyssey*, deal with monsters, marvels, extraordinary voyages, and magic, and this genre, known as fantasy, remained an essential part of European literature through the rise of the modern realist novel. Tracing the history of fantasy from the earliest years through to the origins of modern fantasy in the 20th century, this account discusses contributions decade by decade--from Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Lewis's *Narnia* books in the 1950s to J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series. It also discusses and explains fantasy's continuing and growing popularity.

diana wynne jones interview: APAIS, Australian Public Affairs Information Service, 1998 Vol. for 1963 includes section Current Australian serials; a subject list.

diana wynne jones interview: Dolphin Square Terry Gourvish, Terence Richard Gourvish, 2014-09-25 Dolphin Square - the large, imposing red brick building on the North bank of the Thames - was and is no ordinary block of flats. Created for MPs, peers and entertainers required to work in London, the Square was built on a massive scale to a high density in the mid-1930s. It was a pioneering example of concrete design, and when built was the largest single residential building in Europe. This book tells the story of the project and captures what it has been like to live in the square for figures including Sir Menzies Campbell, Alistair Darling, William Hague, Mo Mowlam, Sir David Steel, Christine Keeler, Sid James, Barbara Windsor and Princess Anne. Beginning with the antecedents of the seven-acre site, the book charts the square's changing ownership and eventual creation of the Dolphin Square Trust, which managed the flats on a non profit-making basis for 40 years. Its unique blend of quasi-charitable purpose and commercial management enabled long-standing tenants to enjoy below-market rentals before the Trust came under immense pressure to realise the value of the existing leases and sell them off in 2006 ... provide[s] a detailed examination of a major example of urban property speculation and management--Publisher's description.

diana wynne jones interview: Crossing Textual Boundaries in International Children's Literature Lance Weldy, 2011-01-18 "As the first part of the title indicates, my interest in looking at intertextuality and transformation still maintains a prominent place throughout this book as well. If we believe that 'no text is an island,' then we will understand that the relationships between and within texts across the years become a fascinating place for academic inquiry. I included the word 'boundaries' into the title because we never get tired of voicing our opinions about texts which traverse relegated boundaries, such as genre or medium. Not only am I interested in discussing what these changes across boundaries mean socially, historically, and culturally, but also what they mean geographically, which accounts for the second part of my title. "I am very excited that this book will be placing even more emphasis on children's literature in an international scene than my first book did, in the sense that I have added more scholars on an international level. I hesitate to list the nationalities of all of the contributors here because quite a few have themselves crossed international boundaries in different ways, by either studying abroad or finding permanent residency in foreign countries. Nevertheless, the writers have lived extensively in or identify as being from Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United States of America, and Wales." —Introduction

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