

Krista's talk topics for schools, libraries, festivals, conferences and P.D. sessions

TOPICS FOR STUDENTS

MEET THE AUTHOR

for all primary and lower secondary students

With over 20 years experience in Children's Literature and seventeen popular books published, Krista is an engaging speaker for children and adults.

Equally inspiring when giving a talk to several hundred students or conducting a workshop for a small group of students, Krista will impart her passion for books and writing, while passing on valuable writing tips and techniques.

Krista's sense of humour, easy rapport with children, love of the absurd, great storytelling skills and ability to turn the most ordinary story into exciting '**fibtion**' will entice your students into the magical world of books.

Sessions can be tailored to suit your school's needs:

Three 1-hour sessions per day

*large group talks

*2 classes per talk

*individual class group writing workshops

*writer-in-residency for three to five days

SNIFFING OUT A GOOD TALE (TAIL?)

for lower and mid primary students

Looking at the many **true stories**
that inspired *Jezza* and *Sniffy the Sniffer Dog*

How to

take things that happen in **REAL LIFE**
and turn them into creative **STORIES**

by writing what Krista has dubbed **FIBTION**, rather than fiction.

An entertaining and inspiring talk during which your students will discover how Krista creates her exciting "fibfictional" stories as well as learning some tricks to improve their own writing.

With time for Q&A.

Can also incorporate, or be followed up with a **practical writing workshop** in which, with Krista's expert help, students plan their own story based on a real life experience!

WHO DARES?

Writing real life as fiction

for upper primary and lower secondary students

Talking specifically about her Lothian Junior Fiction titles
aimed at 9-14 year old readers:

Read My Mind! Get a Life! Who Cares? No Regrets No Strings Who Dares?

Krista shares her skills as she demonstrates how to
turn real life into fiction

have some serious fun **manipulating the truth**
improve your story with large dollops of **quirky imagination**,
commonly known as **fibs**, or, as Krista calls it, **FIBTION**.
Remember “never let the truth spoil a good story!”

An inspiring talk that will motivate your students to read more
and improve their own **creative writing**. Time for Q&A session.
Can incorporate or be followed by a **practical writing workshop**.

GET A LIFE!

How to develop characters that will write your story for you!

for upper primary and lower secondary students

The easy and highly recommended way to write fiction without really trying! Or is it? Krista compares writing meticulously prepared, plot-driven fiction with those that are character-driven, and shares her sometimes-contradictory findings with creative writing students.

NO TEARS

Your opinion *does* count

for upper primary/lower secondary students

- how to write riveting book reviews and articles
and publish them for your school community to read.

An ABC Radio and in print **book reviewer** for fifteen years and **journalist**
prior to becoming a **fulltime author**,

Krista shares practical **reviewing tips** and fascinating **anecdotes** about the reality of writing reviews and articles for newspapers and journals, including *Classroom*.

TOPICS FOR ADULTS

BookSpeak™

Create a parent book club at your school to read, review and chat about the books young people are reading

As a former **book reviewer** with fifteen years experience on ABC Radio and in print, a **journalist**, the **author** of seventeen titles for young readers and the **mother** of three sons, Krista outlines her dream that every school in Australia set up a parent book club so **parents read and regularly discuss the books** on offer to our children, with a view to **creating a reading culture in every school**, and offers practical suggestions on how to go about it at your school.

SNIFFING OUT A GOOD TALE

How to
IDENTIFY A GOOD STORY from your own life,
RESEARCH additional facts,
turn on your **IMAGINATION**
and **WRITE FICTION**.

An inspirational creative writing workshop for adults from the author of seventeen popular books for young readers, including Lothian Junior Fiction titles
Read My Mind! Get a Life! Who Cares? No Regrets No Strings Who Dares?

GET A LIFE!

How to develop characters that will write your story for you!

The easy and highly recommended way to write fiction without really trying! Or is it? Krista compares writing meticulously prepared, plot-driven fiction with those which are character-driven, and shares her sometimes contradictory findings with those aspiring to write a novel or short story.

WHO DARES?

Writing reality in a fantasy market

Learn how Krista remains **true to her own voice**,
ignoring the lure of writing fantasy, the flavour of the month genre,
and instead writes **real life family stories** that have kids wanting more.

Specific reference to her Lothian Junior Fiction titles:
Read My Mind! Get a Life! Who Cares? No Regrets No Strings Who Dares?
which are aimed at 9-14 year old readers.

WHITE OUT! TEAR OUT! OR BAN? Censorship in children's literature

As a former **book reviewer for fifteen years on ABC radio** and in print,
an **author** of seventeen titles for young readers
and the **mother** of three sons,
Krista tackles a traditionally controversial subject,
discusses honestly **how censorship impacts on her own writing** for young readers,
and gives **practical suggestions** on how to handle censorship in your school.
Audience participation encouraged. Time for Q&A

NO TEARS Your opinion *does* count

A former in print and ABC radio **book reviewer**,
Krista Bell shares her experiences and skills
on how to
write book reviews and articles that other people *will* want to read,
taking into account the audience for whom you're writing.

This **practical workshop** will encourage you to speak your mind,
write honest and **well balanced book reviews and articles**
that deserve to be published
in industry newsletters, newspapers and literary magazines.

READIO! Planning, writing, producing and presenting a radio programme about books and writing for your students

Apart from being an in-print and on-air (ABC) **book reviewer for 15 years**
before becoming a full-time writer,
Krista **wrote, produced and presented a one-hour radio programme** for kids
which went to air weekly for five years.

Where Do You Get Your Ideas? (now out of print) is a collection of Krista's on-air interviews with other
creators of Australian children's books. You're sure to have a copy of this **valuable resource** in your
library! Be inspired! Find out how your staff and your students could **produce book readio** at your school

—
or for your local community radio station.

BEING NICE – BUT NOTICED!

The art of self-promotion

particularly for published and would-be writers

Discover how to **maintain your integrity**, 'keep yourself nice', but build-up a useful **network** in the book industry, get to know **the market** for which you're writing and capture the attention of **publishers** with a view to being published.

Learn how to use **the media**, and get your name out there by every method known to woman, including the **internet and a home page**, as well as learning practical **techniques for radio interviews** from a former radio presenter with **fifteen years experience** as a **book reviewer on ABC Radio** and **presenter/interviewer** on Radio 3RPH.
Q&A encouraged.