

Where did you get the idea for your most recent book?



Nikki Young I read a centenary document from the high school I attended and it got me thinking about all the pupils that have come and gone in that time and of all the things that have happened in the world during the school's history. I started to explore a connection between present and past pupils and it went from there.

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How do you get inspired to write?



Nikki Young I read a lot. I watch a lot of films and I have a good idea of what I like and don't like. Ideas are constantly floating around my head and if I sit and flesh out an idea, start to plan, do some research, a story will begin to take shape and come to life.

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What's your advice for aspiring writers?



Nikki Young Keep writing. You won't get better unless you practice. It's all very well having ideas and talking about them, but unless you put them down on paper, you'll never know if they're any good. Don't be afraid to get things wrong. That's what editing is for. Just write and go for it.

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What's the best thing about being a writer?



Nikki Young Being able to dive into another world - one you've created. When a story is going really well, there's no better feeling than when you're carried along by the characters, who seem to come alive and write the story by themselves.

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How do you deal with writer's block?



Nikki Young I have to have my list of 'to-do's' cleared before I can fully focus on writing. I wish it could be the other way round, but unfortunately, that's not the case. If I set myself challenges, I'm more likely to get on with the writing though. There's nothing beats a deadline!

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What are you currently working on?



Nikki Young My second book is due to be published in July this year and as well as getting ready for the launch, I'm working on the edits for the second book in this series and planning the third. There will be four books in total in the Time School series that centres on four children, a school, the events that have occurred during its 100 year history and how the lives of the people who have studied there connect the present with the past.

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