

Each month we will focus on an inspiring author based in or writing about Wales! You'll have an introduction to their latest book, what inspires them to write, and any advice they have for young writers!

Get to know

Sharon Marie Jones



Sharon Marie Jones was born and raised in mountainous North Wales, immersed in magical folktales of giants and fairies. She now lives near Aberystwyth with her husband and sons. She studied English and Education at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, graduating with first class honours. She worked as a primary school teacher for 12 years, before becoming a full time writer. She is the author of the *Grace Ella* series published by Firefly Press.



Summary:

Grace Ella: Pixie Pandemonium is the new sequel to *Grace-Ella: Spells for Beginners* and *Grace-Ella: Witch Camp*.

When Buddy the pixie smuggles himself into her backpack after Witch Camp, Grace-Ella lets him stay, even though Mr Whiskins tells her pixies are trouble. She takes him to school – but he soon escapes and causes all kinds of mischief. It's all fun, until searching for Buddy, Grace-Ella sees someone stealing the school's charity fund. Will anyone believe her? With her best friends, a naughty pixie and of course Mr Whiskins by her side, can Grace-Ella save the School Fair?

Illustrated by Adriana J. Puglisi & published by Firefly Press, June 2021.

What inspired you to write *Grace Ella: Pixie Pandemonium*?

This book is the third in the *Grace-Ella* series, and so it's a continuation of Grace-Ella's magical adventures. When Buddy Whiffleflip, the forest pixie, appeared in the second book *Grace-Ella: Witch Camp*, I knew instantly that he was a character that I could have lots of fun with, and so he was the inspiration behind the third book. The story grew around him.

Tell us a little about the story you've created ...

Grace-Ella has just returned from her week at Witch Camp and unbeknown to her, Buddy Whiffleflip has stowed away in her rucksack. When Grace-Ella discovers him, she decides to let him stay - having a pixie staying would be so much fun after all! But as the title of the book suggests, Buddy not only brings a lot of fun with him, but more than a peppering of pandemonium too. In the midst of the pixie pandemonium, Grace-Ella is once again up against her arch-enemy, Amelia. This time, Grace-Ella must find a way to prove that Amelia is a cheat and a liar, without of course, breaking any of the Nine Golden Rules, which as a witch, she must adhere to. The story is a bubbling cauldron of magic, mischief and mayhem.

If you could be a character from a book for the day, who would it be & why?

I would love to be Roald Dahl's Matilda, who I've seen described as 'bookish and brilliant!' I would get to spend the day reading and doing magic - what more could you want?!



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