

Inca Author Information Page

Phillip N. Smith

Currently living in: Porvoo, Finland

Main works: Daniel and George's Double Treasure Hunt Trouble

I started writing because: I've always been an avid reader from a very early age and having read numerous books that left me with the thought that I could write better than that, I decided to call my own bluff...

My main writing interests are: I do like a bit of escapism so Sci-Fi, Fantasy and Comedy

My sources of research and information are: Internet and library... what else is there?

My inspiration comes from: Tough one... Daniel and George was just an idea that has changed over time into what it has become today; there are certainly influences, from both other author's styles and other things that have left an impression on me over the years, other books that I have read. This really is a hard question to answer.

My stories are planned like this: Although an avid reader, I knew nothing... and I do mean nothing, about how to write a book. It has been a long learning curve, several years and I wouldn't like to think about how many drafts. I basically started by sitting down and writing... and kept writing. Once I had finished the first draft (all 500,000 words of it) I then discovered everything else that will hopefully make my next efforts a bit easier. Simply put, no, this first effort was not planned at all....

I have written a series of books based on: I would like to think it's a combination of Harry Potter and Terry Pratchett, something that would hopefully appeal to a wider audience but something that also has a great sense of adventure to it, something I used to love reading as a child.

My future plans are to: I think spreading out into different genre'. I do have various notes and plotlines worked out for many books (something I've learnt to do on the already mentioned learning curve), some for a similar audience as Daniel and George, something in what I would suppose is a Sci-Fi arena, plus a few others. My next efforts are concentrated on a book currently titled "Puddle Jumping with Beethoven and Anglecake", a story about a family of Gnomes with what I hope to be an environmental message mixed in to an enjoyable read.

My own favourite character is: Personally, I quite like Captain Klaus 'The Mouse' von Damburger, a slightly pantomime style of villain who isn't really as bad (or tough) as he makes out to be.

I sometimes find myself thinking like: I would certainly hope not to be like any of these characters, most of them are either moronic or just plain idiotic...

I also have a few other books I'd like to highlight as follows: As already mentioned, another Children's novel concerning a family of Gnomes, along with a futuristic Sci-Fi-ish novel (aren't they all? LOL!) based in London a few years from now. Another effort I find myself thinking about a lot is a story involving a disillusioned DJ who is hosting a reality show while questioning the value of fame.

My advice to new writers would be: Always be prepared to listen and learn, and above all, never be afraid to ask for advice. AND NEVER STOP WRITING!! If you're stuck with one project, then kick another one about, there are no time limits on how long a piece of work can take.

Writing has its ups and downs: The Ups would certainly be hearing somebody compliment you on your efforts, telling you that they actually enjoyed it. The Downs? Second guessing yourself based on feedback you may have received... took me a long time to understand that I can only please some of the people some of the time, not all the people all of the time.

When I'm not writing: I'm a big movie buff, be it at the cinema or at home. That, and spending time creating a mess in the kitchen.

For copy editing and proofreading: So far I have been relying on the kind generosity of others that I have met via various on-line communities, nothing as far employing "professionals" just it.

I accept criticism from: As long as it is polite and constructive in its intent, I have no problem accepting it and look forward to receiving it. I'm quite happy to accept a critique from anybody who has given up their time to read my efforts.

My experiences with self-publishing: Not a lot... Daniel and George's Double Treasure Hunt Trouble is my first serious attempt at writing and as I'm still concentrating on completing that, I haven't looked much past the immediate goal.

I promote my books via: Again... promoting isn't something that I have tried yet so I really have no idea how I'm going to keep any sort of balance, something else I'll need to learn hopefully.

My favourite mainstream authors are: Terry Pratchett and Iain Banks are two of my favourites, plus Joe Abercrombie is rapidly climbing up the ranks, along with Patrik Ruthfoss and Scott Lynch.

I am currently reading: Robin Hobb's "Fools Assassin"

I prefer to read books in: Showing my age but I prefer a hard back over a paperback (refuse to read on a tablet; just not the same as reading a "real" book!)

A bit about my other interests: I was once in the Guinness Book of World Records and I still have my stamp collection from when I was a child.

My most unattainable ambition is: To compete on "Australian Masterchef"... don't know how far beans on toast with grated cheese will get me....

Last thoughts before we go down the pub/club/library/boot-sale/exercise yard: Not really, still very new to all of this so I'm just listening and learning as I go along, seeing where this path takes me!

Author Links

Website: Not yet....

Amazon Author page: Not yet....

Twitter: Not yet.....

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/> Not yet.....