

A QUESTION OF CULTURE

Sarah Rees Brennan
Author



Last book you read and loved?

Beautiful Creatures by Margi Stohl and Kami Garcia. It's not out yet — I read an advance copy. It's a modern Southern Gothic with a goofy, sweet teenage romance.

Favourite book? *Pride and Prejudice*

by Jane Austen. My father brought it home for me when I was seven, and I sat on the roof of our shed and read the whole thing. I didn't understand half the words, but I loved and laughed at the other half.

The book you could never make it through?

Ulysses by James Joyce. I'm not even allowed to be Irish anymore, am I? But the book reads like someone who cared more about sounding intelligent than writing something which readers would actually enjoy.

Biggest influence in your professional life?

I would say Diana Wynne Jones. She twines realism and fantasy inextricably together.

Favourite film? *The Princess Bride*

is fantastic and hilarious.

Last film you saw and loved? *Let*

the Right One In, a Swedish film which is the best movie about childhood, love and vampirism I have ever seen.

Last film you saw and hated?

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past. I was on a plane, and I thought a romcom couldn't hurt. I was wrong.

Favourite painter? Monet. I love his

use of light.

Favourite musician? Vienna Teng.

She has a crazy beautiful voice, and I think I have listened to *Harbour* at least 700 times.

Favourite TV show? It got cancelled,

but *Veronica Mars* was a wonderful show; funny, clever and noir.

Favourite radio show or presenter?

Jenny Mulligan of *Noise Annoys* because, well, I live with her and I think she's fairly fantastic.

Sarah Rees Brennan is the author of *The Demon's Lexicon*, and will be appearing in the Children's Book Festival which runs throughout October. For further information see www.childrensbooksireland.ie.

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