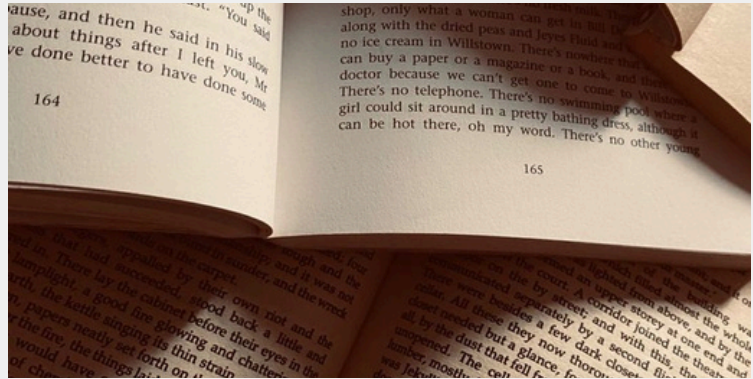


# Writers' Interviews

## Capturing the Bird's Voice

### Writers take backbreaking time to make the wonders of knowledge, literature and curiosity. Why not ask them personally?

Three writers of different backgrounds, beliefs, age and ideologies have all been asked five questions individually. With varying answers with each incredible writer, they all provided eye opening responses that evoked contemplative discussions on the topic of wisdom, life and writing! And the most important of all: these voices are actual people! Surprised? I wonder why.



### Is knowledge power or is power knowledge? Writers of the modern age are the tight rope dancers of this very notion.

Through history, power was always the forefront of every ruler, usurper, empire, heck—even the average peasant! But is this very power the knowledge of greatness? Or is knowledge the true power that those bigheaded idiots ignoring?

Writers of all backgrounds have proved time and time again that **knowledge is power**. The profound ability of understanding and usage of information is far greater than what most originally thought.

Now, this notion isn't just for men in great robes and chiseled features, and thank goodness! Imagine how many sculpturers are going to be needed for interviews? Too much, I say!

Anyone, everyone even, can use knowledge to be powerful—to do good or bad. Preferably good. In particular, writers bring such a strong voice to our world through their literature, perspective and way of writing. Arguably, Stephan King, a prolific writer in the global community, has indubitably changed how writing is for the modern century. Published almost 80 pieces of writing, a couple of them nonfiction and five books under the penname "Richard Bachman" (Sperling, D. M., Neyt, V. and Kestemont, M.) he is the pillar of literal knowledge through power. Making a name for himself as an author to be known everywhere—really, who hasn't heard of him?

With his incredible ability of genre blending, he has made writing worthy of recognition and influenced other individuals to write, grow their craft and expand the boundaries that was once in place. Truly, **knowledge is power**.

As your sailor reporter, the power and the knowledge came in waves as I interviewed three aspiring authors. Get it? It's all yours should you choose to read on.



# Great minds have great voices



## Daphne: the kind voice and maternal warmth

A writer with the warmth of the sun and the ability to make you feel at home, Daphne is a one of a kind writer. Surprisingly, she does not consider herself a writer, but with already a steadfast progression of a series, perhaps she will.

**Question 1: If you had the chance to talk to your younger self, what advice would you give them?**

*"You are more than what you know at this moment. You have enormous potential. Every child has enormous potential. It's just the matter of doors opening, confidence in yourself, opportunities, dreams, aspirations and not settling for the situation you are right now."* Giving a strong answer with wisdom.

*"You are what you think. Your emotions are the product of your thoughts—they can isolate you or push you forward."* And who knew that? Now you know.  
*"Don't limit yourself."*

Truly a woman of knowledge.

**Q2: What genre is your favourite?**

*"Mystery, spies, detective—stories in a military."* As she further elaborated, tales that exposed the corruption of white collared individuals in fiction and reality. Very juicy and enthralling! In her own fiction piece—or rather pieces—it explores the concept of judicial evil that can extend to the further parts of a society's government and the 'evil' that is depicted to be the problem; essentially saying, "who are the real bad guys?" And is there any bad guys at all?

*The people who aren't on the battlefield are the ones who start the wars.*

## Ruth: the youth with the beautiful journey of discovery

A young woman with a long arduous path ahead of her; but as she had demonstrated in the interview, she doesn't need to worry at all. Time's on Ruth's side and while we youth might not know consciously, it's an advantage.

Wonderful, relatable and sisterly. An aspiring writer indeed.

**Question 1: If you had the chance to talk to your younger self, what advice would you give them?**

*"Don't be overly perfectionist—it doesn't have to perfect straight away."* Short, sweet and straightforward; a message for all young writers who believe that writing must be perfect. It's like an unused hose; the water will first come out as dirty, muddy and disgusting; but eventually, it'll run clear, smooth and beautifully.

**Q2: What genre is your favourite?**

*"Easy to read—digestible. Simple. Because sometimes it's difficult to relate and feel evocative." Isn't that the truth!?* The reading community can be heavily focused on thought provoking, philosophical and large discussion; but let's be honest here. We aren't all Greek Philosophers with the time of the world on our backs to ponder.

## Janet: the legendary, cool, bush poet

A down to earth, nonchalant and level-headed writer with the ability to evoke coolness effortlessly. Janet is one cool pickle in this world of chaos and disorder, that it was quite refreshing to be in the presence of.

Book obsessed, experienced and easy-going. One of a kind poet that guaranteed herself to be in my list.

**Question 1: If you had the chance to talk to your younger self, what advice would you give them?**

*"Start earlier—don't be afraid of failure."* A sentiment that all writers alike, young and old should take to heart. As she recalled, despite how highly achieving she proved to be, she couldn't put pen to paper when the desire to write was strong. This was a combination of the fear and circumstances, preventing her from ever going through it; but this exactly gave her wisdom that she now has.

*"Don't be afraid of starting early."*

**Q2: What genre is your favourite?**

*"In regards to reading, I like reading rural stories, mysteries, horror, legal thrillers, and the like. In terms of writing, I write primarily bush poetry, usually with a humorous twist at the end."* Well said, people. It makes me want to read even more!

Did you know...?

Writing was invented c. 3400 B.C. in an area called Sumer near the Persian Gulf.

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**Q3: What made you start writing?**

Daphne was in a particular lost and dark moment in her life, where she was actually seeking distraction and an escape, which ended up being, in this situation, taking care of animals in someone's land. She had received a phone call from her daughter and flippantly made a joke about making a story about a familiar person between them. This almost insignificant, small, moment of humour skyrocketed her into the writing realm and now she's writing the third book of her series! Who knew a joke could be the start of your career?

*"The story wrote itself."*

**Q4: How was the beginning of your writing journey? Did you experience writer's block; challenges; experiences; rock bottom moments?**

*"Not until my third book."* A whole journey of writing and now just getting a challenge? Wow, I think we need her tips to get a smooth start. I bet we can all feel the string of envy coming! Hold your pens tightly.

**Q5: What kind of writing do you primarily do?**

*"Mystery—well..."* Based on how beautifully complex her pieces of works are, categorising such thing is impossible! Down right insulting even! And who said we have to label the kind of writing we do? Writing, like many different art forms, cannot be constricted to a box and expected to be understood. It's to be felt, experienced, *heard*.

**"You make your own reality."**

**Q3: What made you start writing?**

*"School... Grades. Learning."* School is the foundation of all pathways of life and there's nothing wrong with such a minimal response! I for one do enjoy how writing is in school and she clearly does too.

Ruth also stated that it enabled her to see how writing is the form of expressing yourself freely, rather than having such a confined parameters to keep yourself in. Like tennis.

It might not be the greatest conversation starter but it definitely makes you more attractive than a magazine model. Who doesn't like looks *and* intellect?

**Q4: How was the beginning of your writing journey? Did you experience writer's block; challenges; experiences; rock bottom moments?**

*"Had periods of time not writing, probably years. I want to say you should stay consistent but—if you need a break, take a break."* Did you hear that from the back or does it need to be repeated? Despite how glamorous a writing journey/life can look like, there's going to be times where you just need to take a damn break! Don't force yourself into doing because you might not be in the right mindset or time in your current life.

**Q5: What kind of writing do you primarily do?**

*"No comment."* Ruth is still fresh in this vast world of writing that she needs to find her own personal style of writing first, and that is okay!

**"Be kind to yourself.  
If it's not okay,  
it's okay."**

**Q3: What made you start writing?**

Janet was first pushed into the direction of writing by the uni assessments that needed her to write reports and papers, which was all good and all, giving her amazing grades; but it wasn't the same as writing it for *yourself*. When she discovered that she had something to say, the mere academic writing evolved exponentially into a flurry of passionate poetry. *"Words have power."*

**Q4: How was the beginning of your writing journey? Did you experience writer's block; challenges; experiences; rock bottom moments?**

*"Yes—tried writing fiction and then realised one needs practice."*

Motivated by her high success in her uni courses, she tried to make fiction such as novel pieces, like many other writers; but for the lack of better words, it was horrible. Not everyone is lucky to have a wonderful first piece.

Janet did a second try around this kind of writing. And it went... horrible. Again.

In a more or less ceremonial stumble in rhyming, she found poetry. Instant love at first sight. It made sense and felt right for Janet, so like a true poet, she ran with it!

**Q5: What kind of writing do you primarily do?**

*"Mainly bush poetry."* Who doesn't love seeing the mundane life of Australia in an extraordinary perspective?

**"Find what you love  
and run with it."**



Curiosity. Creativity. Expansion