



Gordon Korman

WRITING TIPS FOR KIDS


From a former kid writer

Photo by Owen Kassimir

When I was in fourth grade, I read *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, and it totally blew me away. First of all, I'd never realized before that there were books about people just like me. Second, it was funny! When I was a kid, I craved humor. Even as a two-year-old, my favorite cartoons were the ones that made me laugh.

It started a love affair with reading that I still haven't outgrown. And when my seventh-grade English teacher gave us half the year to write whatever we wanted, it was natural for me to create a funny middle-grade novel—my very first book, which was published when I was 14. That's why the intersection of kids and writing has always held a very special place in my heart.

So here's writing tip #1: write what you love. For me, it was a funny school story. For you, it might be something else. The important thing is that you're psyched about what you're working on. Remember: you are your most important reader. If you can't even capture your own attention, how are you ever going to entertain strangers?



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