

Neil Gaiman

Bibliography & Awards (partial list for children's writings)

Coraline, 2002 (Illustrated by Dave McKean)

- 🏆 ALA Notable Children's Books
- 🏆 ALA Best Book for Young Adults
- 🏆 SLA Best Book
- 🏆 Publisher's Weekly Best Book
- 🏆 Child Magazine Best Book of the Year
- 🏆 Hugo Award for Best Novella

The Wolves in the Walls, 2003 (Illustrated by Dave McKean)

- 🏆 *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book
- 🏆 IRA/CBC Children's Choice

The Day I Swapped My Dad for Two Goldfish, 2004 (Illustrated by Dave McKean)

- 🏆 Newsweek Best Children's Book

M is For Magic, 2007 (Illustrated by Teddy Kristiansen)

The Dangerous Alphabet, 2008 (Illustrated by Gris Grimly)

The Graveyard Book, 2008 (illustrated by Dave McKean)

- 🏆 2009 Newbery Medal
- 🏆 Hugo Award
- 🏆 Locus Award
- 🏆 Carnegie Medal
- 🏆 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children's Book Award
- 🏆 Greenaway Medal

Odd and the Frost Giants, 2008 (Illustrated by Brett Helquist)

Blueberry Girl, 2009 (Illustrated by Charles Vess)

- 🏆 Goodreads Choice Award – Picture Books

Crazy Hair, 2009 (Illustrated by Dave McKean)

Instructions, 2010 (Illustrated by Charles Vess)

Chu's Day, 2013 (Illustrated by Adam Rex)

Fortunately, the Milk, 2013 (Illustrated by Skottie Young)

- 🏆 Amazon.com Best Books of the Year, 2013: Ages 9-12

Chu's First Day of School, 2014 (Illustrated by Adam Rex)

Hansel and Gretel, 2014 (Illustrated by Lorenzo Mattotti)

- 🏆 *Kirkus Reviews* Best Books of 2014: Middle Grade Books
- 🏆 *New York Times* Notable Children's Books of 2014, Picture Books

The Sleeper and the Spindle, 2014 (Illustrated by Chris Riddell)

- 🏆 Greenaway Medal

Cinnamon, 2017 (Illustrated by Divya Srinivasan)

About Neil Gaiman

Early Life

Neil Richard MacKinnon Gaiman was born in 1960 and grew up in southern England. As a child, he spent much time at his local library, devouring the works of classic authors such as Ursula K. LeGuin, Edgar Allen Poe, C. S. Lewis, and J. R. R. Tolkien. He credits his time in libraries for nurturing his love of reading and the classic literature he read for influencing his own prolific writing ("Neil Gaiman", n.d., para. 1). He began his professional writing career as a journalist, penning biographies for rock group Duran Duran and author Douglas Adams, publishing his first fiction graphic novel in 1987.

Writing for Children

After an illustrious career as an adult fiction writer writing many bestsellers, Neil published his first children's book, The Day I Swapped My Dad for Two Goldfish, in 1997. Neil discussed his inspiration for the book as stemming from a conversation with his one of his children:

"...my son looked at me one day when I was saying something unreasonable and horrible to him...he said, 'I wish I didn't have a Dad'. He said, 'I wish I had something good, like some goldfish.' He then stomped off to bed angrily. I thought, 'What a great idea!'" (White, 1999, para. 34).

Two of his most notable books for children are Coraline and The Graveyard Book, both of which have won several awards. Coraline has been made into a movie, and The Graveyard Book is in production. Each of Neil's children's books are quite different, ranging from lyrical prose to gothic horror - reflecting his desire not to be limited to any one genre as a writer ("Neil Gaiman", n.d., para. 9).

Family Life

Neil currently lives with his second wife, musician Amanda Palmer. They have one child together named Anthony. He also has three children (Michael, Maddy, and Holly) from a previous marriage (Biography.com Editors, 2017, para. 11).