

Author Interview Questions

Element

Questions

General

- Why did you write this book? What inspired you?
- Where do you get your ideas for your book?
- What should readers know about your book?
- What is your writing process?
- Do you plan out your book, or just write?
- How long does it take you to write a book?
- How long have you been writing? When did you start?
- What's your favorite book?
- What do you think good writing is?
- What advice would you give to a new writer?

Fiction

- Do you write the plot first or the characters?
- Do you base your characters on real people?
- What do you think happened to the characters after the book ended?
- Do you miss your characters?

Nonfiction

- Did you learn anything new when you were writing your book? What did you learn?
- Did anything surprise you? What?
- Did writing this book make you change your mind about any of the issues?
- If you wrote about real people, what did they think of your book?

Children's

- When you were a kid, did you want to be a writer? When did you first realize you wanted to be a writer?
- What does your family think of your writing? Do they read it?
- When did you write your first book and how old were you?
- Were you good at school?
- What books did you read when you were a kid?

Authors are interviewed a lot these days: on podcasts, on radio or TV programs, and at school or library visits. If you are an interviewer, these questions are a place to start planning your interview. If you're an author, use this list to practice your answers.

Either way, your interview will go more smoothly if you prepare!