

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1.) Welcome to Spring Branch and thank you for taking the time to talk with us today. Please give us your name and the purpose of your visit to Spring Woods High School.
- 2.) I heard that you are a 2008 National Book Award Finalist. Could you tell us a little about this book?
- 3.) What special meaning does this book have for you?
- 4.) I was reading about your background, and I understand that you had a wall in your room that you wrote on with Crayolas during your childhood. How did this affect your writing?
- 5.) What makes a good children's book?
- 6.) You grew up in Spring Branch and graduated from high school here. What memories do you have of Spring Branch, and how has Spring Branch changed since your childhood?
- 7.) What is **YOUR** favorite book?
- 8.) As a highly successful writer, do you think books are dead now that kids are more inclined towards movies, the Internet, and other technology?
- 9.) When did you first decide that you wanted to be a writer?
- 10.) You have written a lot of children's books. What is it about children that gravitates you to write children's books, and books in general?
- 11.) What motivated you to become a poet, teacher, and writer- and how do you balance your time?

- 12.) Is there a little of Spring Branch in your books, and if so, how?
- 13.) Do you have any special abilities or insights that enable you to write good children's books, and if so, how do you think that others can develop these traits?
- 14.) (Purely a funny comment/outtakes) You are known for your use of animals in your writing. How do you feel that other works that use anthromorphism, or personification with animals, portrays animals, such as Animal Farm.

**Five final Questions for Kathi Appelt:**

- 1.) What inspired you to become a writer?
- 2.) What do you want your writing to achieve?
- 3.) How has writing affected you as a person?
- 4.) How did your childhood affect your writing?
- 5.) What do you write about in your writing journal?

Mrs Appelt we want to thank you again for talking with us today

This is Shane Haley reporting.

WRAP

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