

Frank Beddor's Presentation Breakdown for School Events

I start with a little history lesson on Lewis Carroll and his "Alice"...

Facts include:

The third most quoted literary work in history...

Universally accepted that Lewis Carroll told this story to Alice Liddell...

4500 editions in a multitude of languages from Afrikaans to Yiddish

4 International chapters of the Lewis Carroll Societies

Japan, America, Australia, England.

The story behind the story or how I came to discover the truth!

I tell the story of how I came to discover the true story of Alyss OF Wonderland...

A number of years ago I was in London and went to the British Museum and happened upon an exhibit of ancient cards...

Show and Tell

I unveil the Box and the Cards that I discovered in London and tell the story as it was first told to me by the antiquities dealer.

I act it out rather than just reading from the book and try to open it up into a form of oral storytelling where the kids and teachers are part of the experience rather than just a passive audience.

My experiences in doing this for various schools has made me appreciate the (if not lost, than seriously missing) art of oral storytelling.

Show the visuals of the art on the cards.

Powerpoint presentation.

Book Trailer for LGW

"Do you watch movie trailers?"

"Would you want to read a book if you liked it as a book trailer?"

Ask "Do you think LGW would make a good movie?"

Usually, the response from the kids is very positive so I proceed with a discussion on casting. I tell them I have been having a very difficult time casting

young Dodge and Alyss. Does anyone know someone who would want to star in a Hollywood movie? Does anyone want to audition?

Inevitably, there are volunteers.

Hold Auditions

These are a lot of fun as the auditions really connect the kids to their classmates and the story. I also ask the kids to suggest one of their teachers to audition for the scene stealing part of her Imperial Viciousness, Redd.

Each volunteer receives a gift of the book soundtrack I produced to accompany LGW.

Extending and Deepening the story

At this point, I talk about my decision to do a comic book series based on Royal Bodyguard Hatter Madigan and how by doing this parallel story I was able to extend the world by using a different medium. I talk about the comic book writing process, working with the artist, display the comics, field questions.

Summing it up

The overall theme of the presentation is the experience of imagination and curiosity and how they inspire each other to infinite worlds of creativity. And I try to demonstrate to the kids through my own adventures that you can express and share your vision and your world through writing, art, film, music. I try to leave the kids inspired to read, to write, to draw, to imagine their own stories.