

AUTHOR VISITS WITH JENNIFER CASTLE

Thank you for your interest in booking a school visit! Sharing my experiences and engaging with young readers is absolutely one of my favorite things about being an author.

The Program:

My interactive school visit program focuses on the journey of a novel from inspiration to publication, with a slideshow for visuals. For students in grades 6-7, I focus on *You Look Different in Real Life*, which covers themes of social media and identity that really resonate with this age group. For students in grades 8-12, I include my novels *The Beginning of After* and *What Happens Now*. Topics covered include: how I became an author, where I got my book ideas, how I developed the characters and outlines, the process of writing a first draft, the revision process with my editor and copy editor, and the cover design process. I share screenshots of my working documents and other “inside peeks” at a book’s journey. Along the way, I engage students in short discussions on where to get story ideas, what makes strong characters and plotlines, how to actually get the words written, and how to self-edit and make writing stronger. I aim to leave plenty of time for Q&A. Depending on time and interest level, I also include a short, fun writing exercise.

Tips for a Successful Visit:

- If the program takes place in the library or a classroom (instead of an auditorium), it’s best if students sit in chairs, facing forward, rather than at tables. If the program’s conducted in the library, ideally there should be no other students in the room who are not participating in the presentation.
- It works wonderfully when students are asked to think of questions beforehand and write them anonymously on index cards for me to draw from.
- I highly recommend students read at least one of my books beforehand. If your school decides to order a class set of one of my titles, I can offer a discount on my visit fee.
- If students would like to pre-order my books to be signed on the visit day, I can help arrange this through a local bookstore or obtain books directly from the publisher.

Fees:

\$600 for one or two interactive presentations with students, tailored for group size and time period. If desired, I can also conduct a writing workshop with up to 20 select students or have lunch with a small group of students. My fee includes all travel expenses within 90 miles of my home in New Paltz, NY.

Contact information:

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