

Penguin Publishing Group

Q&A with T.A. Barron

2010

Penguin: What can a school, library, or conference expect when you are making an appearance? What do you do differently with audiences of varying sizes, ages, and interests?

T.A. Barron: **My goal is simple: Dazzle folks with the fun and adventure of stories! I will share many stories about heroes (both real and imagined), magical places, family, and the wonders of nature.**

Penguin: What makes your author appearances unique?

T.A. Barron: **Travel in imagination is what my events are about—voyaging to many wondrous places: Merlin’s magical isle of Fincayra, a lost Native American tribe, secrets at the bottom of the sea, a distant galaxy, and more! Also, I always take time to talk about the potential hero in every young person—and to encourage kids to do something positive to help the world.**

Penguin: Do you enjoy making appearances for adult audiences? What do you do when presenting to adults?

T.A. Barron: **I love talking to any audience of adults. My events focus on the magic of story, the inspiration of nature, and the hero in every child.**

Penguin: What can schools and libraries do to ensure a successful appearance?

T.A. Barron: **Bring as many people as possible! And, oh yes, a glass of water is always appreciated. Also, I will need a microphone plus AV equipment to show a PowerPoint presentation as well as a short DVD on young heroes.**

Penguin: Do you enjoy traveling to other parts of the country for appearances?

T.A. Barron: **Yes, I love to travel. But I do miss my wife and kids back in Colorado.**

Penguin: Do you ever make appearances at more than one school in an area? Could schools and libraries from one area join together to bring you to their institution?

T.A. Barron: **Best to bring together as many people as possible for a single, unified group presentation.**

Penguin: What do you hope your audience will come away with from your presentation?

T.A. Barron: **Inspiration—of their own power to make a difference! And also a renewed appreciation for protecting the Earth’s environment.**

Penguin: What was your favorite/most interesting/most memorable [choose one] appearance experience?

T.A. Barron: **After more than twenty years of doing this, I have too many wonderful memories to recount! My writing room in the attic of my Colorado home is literally overflowing with gifts and reminders of these good times and the great kindness of people.**