

Megan Rix (aka Ruth Symes)



Megan Rix is an award-winning author of historical and contemporary children's novels about animals, and a Sunday Times bestselling adult memoir. Under her given name, Ruth Symes, she has written children's picture books, novels and TV scripts.

Prior to becoming a full-time writer, Megan was a SEN teacher, and she promotes her books with great flair at school events and literary festivals, often accompanied by her dogs Bella and Freya, who demonstrate the work that trained assistance dogs do. An animal advocate, Megan is involved with several animal charities and has judged children's story writing competitions for both the RSPCA and the PDSA.

Having lived with hearing loss since childhood, Megan is also involved with deaf culture and is a member of the National Deaf Children's Society. She is a proficient lip-reader and is beginning to use BSL sign language in her school and festival events.

Books by Megan Rix

- *The Great Escape* (Puffin, 2012)
- *The Victory Dogs* (Puffin, 2013) – winner, Stockton Children's Book of the Year Award, 2014
- *The Bomber Dog* (Puffin, 2013) – shortlisted for the Red House Children's Book Award, 2014 alongside David Walliams and Pamela Butchart; winner of the Shrewsbury Children's Bookfest Book Award 2014
- *A Soldier's Friend* (Puffin, 2014)
- *The Hero Pup* (Puffin, 2014)
- *The Runaways* (Puffin, 2015)
- *Echo Come Home* (Puffin, 2016)
- *The Great Fire Dogs* (Puffin, 2016)
- *Winston and the Marmalade Cat* (Puffin, 2017) – a Booktrust pick for November 2017

- *Emmeline and the Plucky Pup* (Puffin, January 2018) – featured in Clare Balding’s World Book Day title, March 2018
- *The Paw House* (due from Puffin, September 2018)
- *Florence and the Mischievous Kitten* (due from Puffin, January 2019)
- Untitled historical novel (due from Puffin, September 2019)

ADULT MEMOIR:

- *The Puppy that Came for Christmas* (Penguin / Michael Joseph, 2010) – a Sunday Times Bestseller

Picture books by Ruth Symes

- *The Sheep Fairy* (Chicken House, 2003)
- *Floppy Ears* (Orion, 2004)
- *Mondays at Monster School* (Orion, 2005) – read on BBC television by Jenny Seagrove as part of the bedtime story hour
- *Little Tail* (Orion, 2006)
- *Harriet Dancing* (Chicken House, 2008)
- *Little Rex* (Piccadilly Press, 2010)
- *Little Rex, Big Brother* (Piccadilly Press, UK; Albert Whitman & Co, USA, 2010)

Novels by Ruth Symes

- *The Master of Secrets* (Puffin, 1997) – nominated for the Carnegie Medal
- *The Mum Trap* (Andersen Press, 2000) – voted in the top 100 children's books of 2000
- *Frankie's Romeo* (Orion, 2002) – received a PAWS drama award
- *Bella Donna: Coven Road* (Piccadilly Press, 2010)
- *Bella Donna: Too Many Spells* (Piccadilly Press, 2011)
- *Bella Donna: Witchling* (Piccadilly Press, 2011)
- *Bella Donna: Cat Magic* (Piccadilly Press, 2012)
- *Bella Donna: Witch Camp* (Piccadilly Press, 2013)
- *Bella Donna: Bella Bewitched* (Piccadilly Press, 2013)
- *The Secret Animal Society: Cornflake the Dragon* (Piccadilly Press, 2014)
- *The Secret Animal Society: Spike the Sea Serpent* (Piccadilly Press, 2015)
- *The Secret Animal Society: Snowball the Baby Bigfoot* (Piccadilly Press, 2015)

TV, radio and more...

Ruth (aka Megan) has an MA in Screenwriting and her credits include several scripts for pre-school TV series *The Hoobs* (Channel 4 / Jim Henson Company), and several for pre-school animation series *PicMe* (RTE / Nick Junior).

She was the Resident Writing Coach and Write a Children's Short Story competition judge on Channel 4's *Richard & Judy*, and regularly does interviews and media appearances to promote her books.

She is also a national karate champion, having won both a gold and silver medal in the 2017 National GKR Karate Championships!

For more information, please visit www.meganrix.com and www.ruthsymes.com.