



## POSSIBLE PRESENTATIONS

### Anita Silvey

Anita Silvey is an engaging and versatile speaker whose deep knowledge of children's book publishing, libraries, and education will help your guests arrive at a better understanding of the field. Programs can also be planned to meet your group's specific needs. Please contact Winding Oak to invite Anita to speak at your library, school, museum, convention, or group meeting. For more about Anita Silvey, visit [www.anitasilvey.com](http://www.anitasilvey.com)

#### ***Chimps, Orangutans, and Mountain Gorillas: What Jane Goodall and the "Ape Ladies" Revealed about our Closest Relatives in the Animal World***

Most appreciated by students and teachers in grades 4 and 5

In the 1960s and 1970s three women scientists, mentored by anthropologist Louis Leakey, traveled into remote areas to study the great apes, the animals that share 98% of our DNA. Using brilliant National Geographic photography, Anita Silvey presents these remarkable women and the animals they studied and grew to love. Anita Silvey is the author of *Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall*, which won the Sugarman Award for the best children's biography in 2016, and the recently published *Undaunted: The Wild Life of Birute Galdikas and Her Fearless Quest to Save Orangutans*. She is currently writing a biography of Dian Fossey.

#### ***Explorers***

Most appreciated by students and teachers in grades 4 and 5

Author Anita Silvey admits that she has always been something of a coward – spiders, snakes, and crocodiles lead the list of creatures that terrify her. To make herself braver, she writes books about explorers, scientists who travel to exotic places and observe these surroundings. In an illustrated lecture on three books – *The Plant Hunters*, *Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall*, and *Undaunted* about Birute Galdikas in Borneo – Silvey presents a funny, but educational, talk about female and male scientists who had great courage and what they discovered.

#### ***Celebrating the Caldecott: The stories behind some of the great Caldecott Medal and Honor Books***

Most appreciated by teachers, librarians, parents, and children's literature students

Looking at 80 years of Caldecott history, Anita Silvey highlights some of the great Caldecott choices and the stories behind the books. Bringing her experience both as a publisher and critic, she takes audiences behind the curtains – to reveal insights into the publishing and promotion of these titles. In examining a hundred years of picture book publishing, Silvey shows how the original ideas of the founders of the Caldecott award have affected books and children over the years.



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### ***Everything I Need to Know I Learned from a Children's Book***

Most appreciated by librarians, teachers, college students, general audience, and parents

Accompanying book: *Everything I Need to Know I Learned from a Children's Book*

In *Everything I Need to Know I Learned from a Children's Book*, Anita Silvey provides insights into the question that has informed her entire career – what are the best books for children to read and what do adults remember about them? Anita talks about some of our great children's books, as well as the people they inspired, such as financiers Peter Lynch and Steve Forbes, actor Kirk Douglas and actresses Kathy Bates and Julianne Moore, folk singer hero Pete Seeger and country singer Brad Paisley, activist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., artist Andrew Wyeth, and comic book creator Stan Lee. Anita highlights the roles that parents, librarians, and teachers have played in shaping our national heroes.

### ***True Stories, True Heroines and Heroes, and True Believers***

Most appreciated by librarians, teachers, and college students

Accompanying books: *Untamed, Let Your Voice Be Heard, The Plant Hunters, Henry Knox*

After many years of being a children's book expert, Anita Silvey published her first book for young readers. Exploring her childhood and her journey to becoming a writer for children, she discusses her own needs as a young reader – and those of today's children. And then she presents the fascinating process of working on the award-winning *Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall* and *Let Your Voice Be Heard: The Life and Times of Pete Seeger*. In a book that general audiences have found fascinating (even spouses appreciate it!), Anita Silvey demonstrates the best practices in narrative nonfiction and why children and adults need stories about true heroes and heroines.

### ***100 Best Books for Children: Our Greatest Books and the Stories Behind Them***

Most appreciated by librarians, teachers, college students, general audience, and parents

Accompanying book: *100 Best Books for Children*,

In a fascinating lecture, Anita Silvey explores 100 years of classic books from *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* to *Because of Winn-Dixie*, looking at the remarkable stories of how the books were created. Dr. Seuss got turned down 27 times; Robert McCloskey kept ducks in his bathtub, and *The Story of Ferdinand* was burned by Hitler. The stories behind the books will help the audience appreciate their favorite books in an entirely different way. Then members of the audience will share their favorite contemporary books – those they think will stand the test of time.



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### ***The Children's Book-a-Day Almanac: Finding the Right Books for Your Children***

Most appreciated by librarians, teachers, college audiences, and parents

Accompanying book: *The Children's Book-a-Day Almanac*

How do you find the books that children will love and remember into adult years? *The Children's Book-a-Day Almanac*, online, allows you to read about one great book every day. In this illustrated lecture, Anita Silvey presents new and old beloved books and ideas to tie them to every day of the year.

### ***Questions and Answers about Contemporary Publishing***

Most appreciated by writers, illustrators, and college audiences

Accompanying book: *The Children's Book-a-Day Almanac*

In a strictly question and answer session, publishing veteran Anita Silvey will answer questions about the state of publishing, self-publishing, and submitting books for publication.

### ***The Best Novels for Grade K-6 Classrooms***

Most appreciated by librarians, teachers, and college audiences

When it comes to children's books, not all are created equally. Anita Silvey will share a carefully selected list of the best novels ever written for children, those that have stood the test of time and engaged readers year after year. She'll reveal the secrets of how these books became classics, their "back stories," providing wonderful anecdotes to share with children. In an entertaining and inspiring lecture, she provides a wealth of contemporary material – from the printed page to YouTube – that will bring these books alive for children.

### **Audio-visual requirements for all presentations:**

LED Projector, screen, darkened room, lavalier microphone, podium, display table next to podium