

Nikki Loftin, Author - Biography

Short and Sweet Bio:

Nikki Loftin lives with her Scottish photographer husband just outside Austin, Texas, surrounded by dogs, chickens, goats, and rambunctious boys. She is the author of the multiply starred-reviewed NIGHTINGALE'S NEST and THE SINISTER SWEETNESS OF SPLENDID ACADEMY, which Publisher's Weekly called "mesmerizing" and Kirkus called "irresistible." Her next novel, WISH GIRL, will be published on February 24, 2015.



Longer, Fancy Bio:

Nikki Loftin is the author of two middle grade novels, both published by Razorbill/Penguin. THE SINISTER SWEETNESS OF SPLENDID ACADEMY (2012) which Publishers Weekly called "a mesmerizing read," and Kirkus Reviews called "deliciously scary and satisfying," was the winner of the 2013 Writer's League of Texas Book Award and is currently listed for Oklahoma's 2014 Sequoyah Book Award. Her second novel, NIGHTINGALE'S NEST (2014), received starred reviews from Kirkus and the Bulletin for the Center for Children's Books, and was singled out by the Children's Literacy Foundation as the middle grade "Next Great Book" of 2014. Nightingale's Nest will also be published in Portuguese by Editora Bertrand in Brazil. Nikki's third book, WISH GIRL, will be published in February 2015. Foreign rights have already been sold in Brazil, Italy, and China.

Nikki's short children's fiction has appeared in Boy's Life and Pockets magazines, among others. She also writes literary fiction, poetry, and essays for adults, and has been published in numerous literary journals and anthologies, including Dear Teen Me: Authors Write Letters to Their Teen Selves. Nikki is represented by Suzie Townsend of New Leaf Literary Agency, and is an active member of the Austin SCBWI, the Writer's League of Texas, and the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA).

Nikki attended the University of Texas at Austin for both her BA (French, '92), and MA (English - Fiction Writing, '98). She speaks conversational French and limited Spanish, and has spent most of her professional life working with children and young adults. After teaching in the New Braunfels Independent School District as a Music and Gifted and Talented teacher, she pursued a career as a Director of Family Ministries at Presbyterian churches. She loves public speaking and has served as

keynote speaker for regional writing organizations and library conferences, and presented at schools as far away as Tokyo, Japan.

A native Texan, Nikki lives near Austin with her husband (a Scottish photographer), two sons, and an assortment of goats, dogs, and chickens. Currently, Nikki writes full-time, although she occasionally teaches Zumba dance/aerobics in an attempt to combat the ever-threatening Writer's Butt. She volunteers with students at local schools with the Reading is Fundamental program, and at her own children's schools in the classrooms and libraries. When under extreme stress, or on submission with a novel, she bakes obsessively as a coping technique. Her favorite food is ice cream, preferably Blue Bell Moo-Ilenium Crunch.

Interviews and Guest Blogs:

- [Transcript of Early Word Live Chat about Nightingale's Nest](http://penguinyrauthors.earlyword.com/nightingales-nest-live-chat/)
<http://penguinyrauthors.earlyword.com/nightingales-nest-live-chat/>
- [The "Pajamas" Interview with Melissa Buron](http://melissaburon.wordpress.com/2012/01/18/interview-with-nikki-loftin/)
<http://melissaburon.wordpress.com/2012/01/18/interview-with-nikki-loftin/>
- [The "Writing = Sausage-Making" Interview with Brittney Breakey](http://authorturf.com/?p=3149)
<http://authorturf.com/?p=3149>
- [Interrogation Room with Sleuths, Spies, and Alibis](http://sleuthspiesandalibis.blogspot.com/2012/07/interrogation-room-suspect-16-middle.html)
<http://sleuthspiesandalibis.blogspot.com/2012/07/interrogation-room-suspect-16-middle.html>
- [Why I Adore Pippi Longstocking with Claire LeGrand](https://builderofworlds.wordpress.com/tag/pippi-longstocking/)
<https://builderofworlds.wordpress.com/tag/pippi-longstocking/>
- [Rejecting Rejection at The Writing Barn \(Going to the Well of Pain\) Guest Blog Post](http://www.thewritingbarn.com/2014/10/06/rejecting-rejection-nikki-lofton/)
<http://www.thewritingbarn.com/2014/10/06/rejecting-rejection-nikki-lofton/>
- [The Nerdy Book Club: Difficult Books, Magical Librarians Guest Blog Post](http://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com/2014/10/09/difficult-books-magical-librarians-and-the-kids-who-need-by-nikki-loftin/)
<http://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com/2014/10/09/difficult-books-magical-librarians-and-the-kids-who-need-by-nikki-loftin/>

Social Media:

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