

MALORIE BLACKMAN

Malorie Blackman is one of Britain's most celebrated authors for children and young adults. She has written more than 70 books and is known for tackling important topics like race, equality, friendship, and justice. Her stories are gripping, emotional, and thought-provoking, making her a favourite among readers aged 10 and above.



WHO IS MALORIE BLACKMAN?

Malorie Blackman, whose full name is Oneta Malorie Blackman, was born in London in 1962. She grew up loving books and initially dreamed of becoming an English teacher. After studying at university, Malorie worked as a computer programmer and database manager. Her determination and passion for storytelling helped her achieve her life-long dream of becoming an author. In 1990, she published her debut book *Not So Stupid!* which was a collection of horror and sci-fi stories. This was a turning point in Malorie's life and she overcame many challenges, including discouragement from others. Since then, she has become one of the most influential voices in children's literature. Malorie's work often reflects her own experiences and her desire to create stories that challenge unfairness and inspire hope.

WHAT BOOKS HAS SHE WRITTEN?

Malorie Blackman has written over 60 books, in addition to television scripts and plays. Her fictional work spans a wide range of texts including picture books, short stories, and novels for older readers. Her most famous series is *Noughts & Crosses*, which explores a world divided by race and power. This series includes several books and has been adapted into a TV show.

Other well-known works include:

- Pig-Heart Boy
- Cloud Busting
- Tell Me No Lies



Her stories often deal with big themes like justice, love, and courage, and they encourage readers to think deeply about the world around them.

WHY DO CHILDREN LIKE HER BOOKS?

Children enjoy Malorie Blackman's books because they combine gripping plots with themes that matter. Her stories often tackle real-life issues such as racism, inequality, bullying, and family struggles, which makes them feel relevant and thought-provoking. The characters are well-developed and relatable—they experience emotions and challenges that many readers understand, like friendship problems, identity questions, and standing up for what is right.

Malorie's writing style is clear, fast-paced, and full of suspense, which keeps readers turning the pages. She uses cliffhangers and emotional twists to make her stories exciting.

Her ability to mix adventure with important lessons means readers not only enjoy the story but also learn about kindness, courage, and the impact of choices. This combination of entertainment and meaning is why her books remain popular with children and young adults.

FUN FACTS

- Malorie was the Children's Laureate from 2013 to 2015, promoting reading for all children in the UK.
- She has won many awards, including the Eleanor Farjeon Award for her outstanding contribution to children's literature.
- Malorie was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for her services to literature.
- She loves music and often listens to songs while writing her stories.
- Her books have been translated into many languages and are read all over the world.



FIND OUT MORE...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPX_rReuEtM

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What was Malorie Blackman's first published book?
2. Where was Malorie Blackman born?
3. What job did Malorie have before becoming an author?
4. How many books has Malorie Blackman written?
5. How can Malorie's writing style be described?

