



AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

Karl Nova



Why bother to read?

I read because I love it. I read because books stimulate my imagination, and take me to new worlds. Reading exercises my mind, gives me new frames of reference and expands my mental capacity. Reading is great and even though audio books are nice and convenient, I will always like opening a fresh new book. Opening one is like opening a door leading to so many exciting possibilities.

What was your favourite childhood book?

I have a lot of favourite childhood books because, as a child, I was a voracious reader but if I had to choose one, I would have to say *The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. That book means a lot to me because when I separated from my mother for 14 years as a child, it was one of the books she gave me. Reading that book also led to me to want to read even more. It has become a metaphor of my life. When I get creative, I feel like I am entering my own personal Narnia.

Which of your own books is your favourite?

At the moment, I am a new author. My debut book *Rhythm and Poetry* came out in 2017 and won the Centre for Literacy in Primary Poetry Award (CLIPPA) the following year. I have a new book that is about to come out that I love. I am proud of all I have written but I probably am going to always cherish that first book of mine the most.

Karl Nova is a Hip Hop artist, author and poet. Born and raised in London as well as Lagos, Karl is a social commentator, creative writing workshop facilitator, broadcaster and cultural critic who creates platforms for other artists as he seeks to uplift, inform and inspire through this artistic expression. Apart from being a wordsmith and energetic live performer, Karl Nova is an avid beatmaker. He released a compilation of electronic music that he created on his phone called *Made 'em on my Phone*.

The new poem *Beautiful Ambition* by Karl Nova has been written to help pupils learn about ambition through poetry and help them write their own poem.