



Acclaimed author Natasha Farrant would like to visit YOUR school.



My children’s books have been nominated for the Carnegie Award and the Queen of Teen, shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award and longlisted for the *Guardian* Children’s Prize. Through my talk and workshops, I aim to share my life-long love of books and to engage with students in discussion about some of the themes I am most passionate about.

The Talk



Standing up for yourself, accepting who you are, and living with the consequences of your actions: these are the unifying themes of all my novels. My talk focuses on sources of inspiration ranging from my family to historical events and classic texts, but throughout the event I encourage the audience to talk about a range of subjects themselves. From annoying sibling to current affairs and favourite fictional characters, we will engage in a truly interactive conversation exploring the various ways in which these key themes can be explored in books, but also how they resonate in our own lives.

While the talk looks at the ensemble of my work, I will concentrate on the titles most appropriate to the age group I am addressing - please see below for details of my books.

The Workshop

Students are divided into groups and guided through communal and individual writing exercises. By the end of the session, they can expect to have the beginnings of a story to work on in their own time, while the session itself will encourage them to work together, to negotiate with each other and to build confidence through sharing their creative ideas with others.

The format of the workshop can be adapted to the time available and to the ages of the participants

The Books

Years 6 through to 8: The Diaries of Bluebell Gadsby

“My plan is to record my life in words and images”

A bittersweet family saga, *After Iris*, *Flora in Love* and *All About Pumpkin* chronicle the lives of the chaotic Gadsbys through the diary and video transcripts of thirteen year old aspiring film-maker Bluebell. Birth, death, boys, friends, daring rescue missions and viral YouTube sensations – life is never dull in the Gadsby household.

The New York Times called *After Iris* “raucously funny”. *Lovereading* called it “ebullient, life-affirming and witty”.

Year 9 and older: The Things We Did for Love



“It’s about more than us now, can’t you see?”

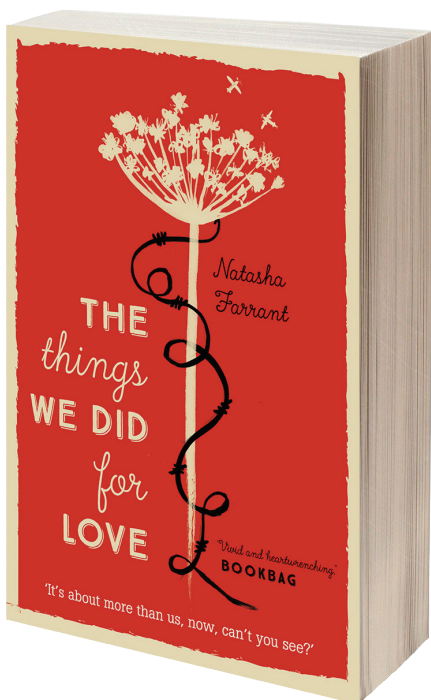
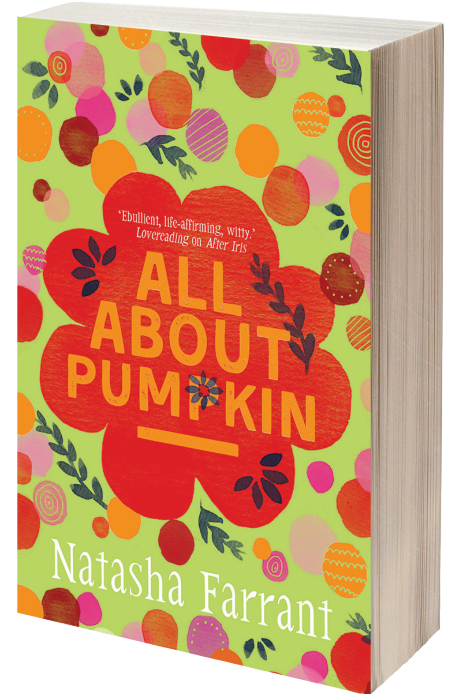
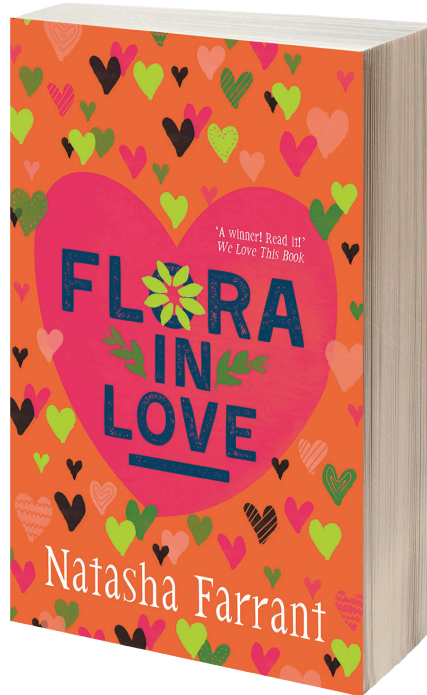
A sleepy village in South West France, Samaroux has largely been ignored by the war. Children go to school. Grown-ups go to work. As the war appears to be reaching its end, teenagers Luc and Arianne fall in love and dream of the future. But the German are not leaving without a fight – and hot-headed Luc has caught their attention. As the Allies land in Normandy and tempers begin to fray, the noose tightens around the village and the lovers, with devastating consequences. Based on a true story.

The Guardian, called *The Things We Did for Love* “an impressive fable about the loss of innocence and the consequent descent into hell”. *The Telegraph* praised its “Terrific discussions of faith, love and finding your place in the world”.

Testimonials

“Natasha Farrant’s presentations and workshops were both entertaining and inspiring and ignited a genuine passion for reading and writing amongst the pupils lucky enough to take part in the event.”

St Marylebone CE School



“Natasha was one of the best authors we have had the pleasure of meeting. She really engaged with the girls and had them enthralled, sharing her experiences of family life and explaining how these influenced her writing.”

Oxford High Junior School

TERMS AND CONTACT DETAILS

- I ask for copies of my books to be available for sale and signing after the talk.
- Travel costs to be covered by the school, and fees to be discussed on an individual basis.
- Timings of presentations and workshops can be tailored to meet needs.
- Natasha can be contacted at natasha@natashafarrant.com, or on 07973781219.