

# The Author's Apprentice

An Online Author-in-Residence Program  
*for Secondary Schools*

[www.TheAuthorsApprentice.co.uk](http://www.TheAuthorsApprentice.co.uk)

**2020/2021 PROGRAM**





# what is the **Author's Apprentice?**

The Author's Apprentice is an online program that allows school students aged 12-17 to work with author Stephen Hunt in producing a novel in real-time across the course of a year.

Think of The Author's Apprentice as a virtual author-in-residence program and an age-selective social network with a dedicated purpose...involving and engaging your students in the process of creating an original novel in real-time across a school year.

## WHO IS THE PROGRAM INTENDED FOR?

The Author's Apprentice is intended solely for secondary school readers aged between 12-17 and their teachers. To help keep the program a safe and friendly environment, registration with the program is only being made available to a selection of invited state and independent secondary schools.

The key stages of writing the novel include . . .

### 1) Writing.

Harking back to the age of Alexander Dumas and Dickens, the novel is released in three or four serialised installments, with voting on future plot developments.

### 2) Revision.

This is an iterative process with each installment, taking on board reader feedback.

### 3) Editing.

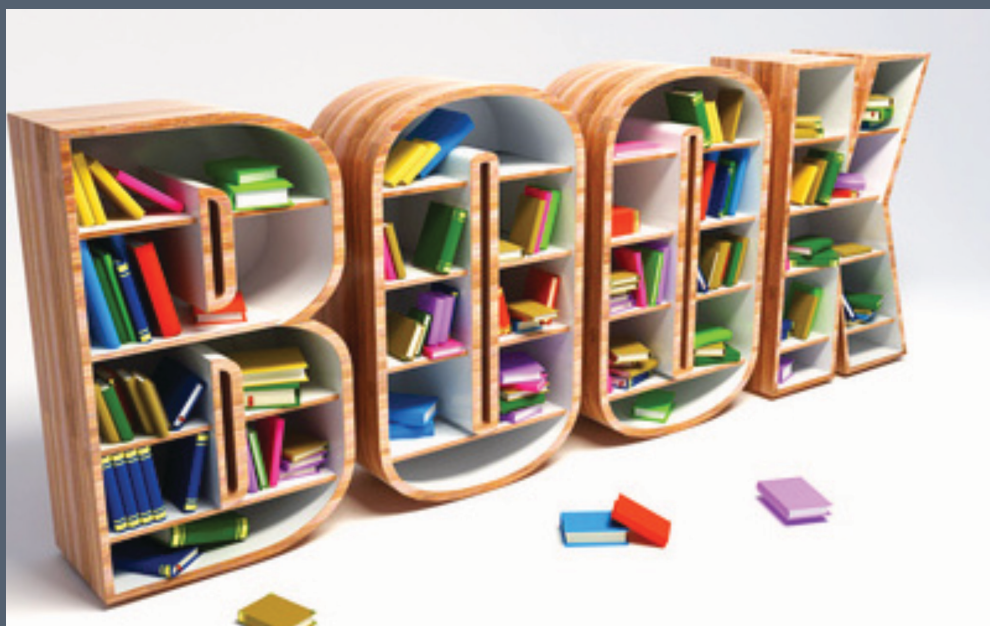
The unedited novel will be open for typos and line edit suggestions from readers and teachers at your school.

### 4) Production.

Readers will vote on the final cover design from a selection of rough proofs.

“I think that without the Author’s Apprentice I wouldn’t be half as friendly and able to cope with schooling as I am.”

- ‘Winter’, student (2014/2015 program), Perth Modern.



If we encounter a man of rare intellect, we should ask him what books he reads.  
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

I would never read a book if it were possible for me to talk half an hour with the man who wrote it.  
– Woodrow Wilson





‘An inventive, ambitious work, full of wonders and marvels.’  
— *The Times*

“Compulsive reading for all ages.”

—*The Guardian*

“Mr. Hunt takes off at racing speed.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*



Stephen Hunt is an author published around the globe and best known for his popular fantasy and science fiction novels. His first six novels - the *Jackelian* series - are published in the UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand by HarperCollins alongside their other fantasy authors, JRR Tolkien, CS Lewis and George RR Martin. Stephen's novels are published in translation in countries from regions ranging as far afield as Latin

America, Europe and Asia. The success of one of his early fantasy novels, *The Court of the Air*, helped kickstart a genre called 'steampunk', which has since evolved into a thriving sub-culture with its own conventions, gadgets and rather unique dress-sense. Before becoming a full-time author, Stephen worked as a journalist, editor and publisher for a range of media, including the science journal *Nature* and the national newspaper *The Financial Times*.

*About the program's Author:* STEPHEN HUNT



## HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

The online program includes an interactive blog, online voting, writing resources and a variety of online forums. Readers engage with the author directly in these forums for the period of the program.



## WHAT BOOK WILL YOUR STUDENTS WORK ON?

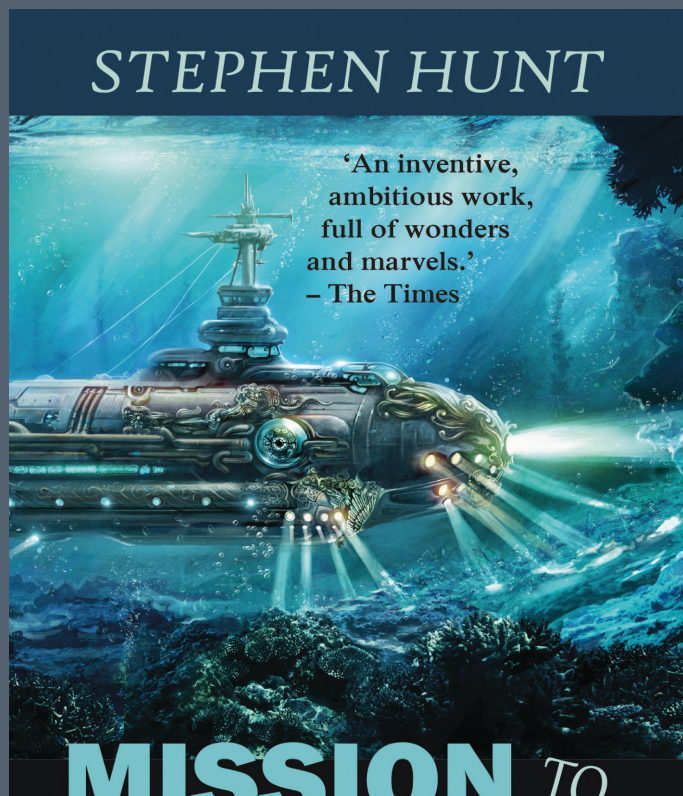
**T**he 2020/21 program will focus on a comedy science fiction novel, *Chance Zapman & the Planet of Doom*, pitched in much the same vein as works by Douglas Adams & Terry Pratchett.

The novel will be written at an elevated YA reading level, and will be entertaining enough for adults to enjoy too.

## WHAT WILL STUDENTS LEAVE WITH?

**I**n addition to the unique experience of participation, at the end of the 2020/21 program, the finished novel will be published in a variety of e-book formats - Kindle, Kobo, Nook - and feature the name of all apprentices involved during the year in a special dedication section of the book. The digital edition of *Chance Zapman & The Planet of Doom* will be available to download by all readers in the program at no extra cost. Printed editions of the book will also be available for purchase by students as a purely optional extra.





## HOW WILL READERS AT YOUR SCHOOL BENEFIT?

The program is designed to Deepen fiction writing skills, help build an abiding love of literature, and provide a unique behind-the-scenes glimpse of the professional publishing world in real time.

And most important of all, it's intended to be a whole lot of fun!

Much like the events of Goethe's 1797 poem, '*The Sorcerer's Apprentice*', who knows what magic will be unleashed?

	2020	2021	SCHEDULE
Registration	Open across the period ...		
Planning	February		
Writing	March/Nov		
Editing	December		
Production/Publication	January		

The previous Author's Apprentice program was oversubscribed and a fabulous success, with hundreds of schools and many thousands of students participating in the program, forums and online platform.

Students signed up from secondary schools around the English-speaking world ... including the USA, UK, Canada,

New Zealand, Ireland and Australia.

The novel they worked with author Stephen Hunt to produce was the young adult fantasy novel, *Mission to Mightadore*.



# Sign-Up

You can register your entire school, a whole year, or a single class/reading group for the Author's Apprentice 2020/2021.

All students will get username/password access to the Author's Apprentice program's web site and receive a copy of the finished novel in digital (e-book) format.

There are no costs or charges to take part for your students or school, although any generous parents/schools who want to help support the program via our Patreon page are more than welcome to do so.

Each participating student (and teacher) will need to set up an ID on the system to login, & they will need a working e-mail address to do this. This can be your official school student e-mail if external emails can be reliably received at it, or a free service such as Hotmail/Gmail. otherwise.

Register your school to take part via the form at

***<http://www.TheAuthorsApprentice.co.uk/schools/how.php>***

Any questions?

Ask: [support@theauthorsapprentice.co.uk](mailto:support@theauthorsapprentice.co.uk)