

TAKE FIVE JANE JESMOND

Author



Favourite book?

As a writer I get asked this a lot, but I have so many favourite books that I can give a different answer every time without telling a lie, so today my favourite book is *A Civil Contract* by Georgette Heyer.

There's something that never fails to engage me about this story of plain and shy Jenny Chawleigh and her love for Adam Peveril that she knows is unrequited. She marries him despite this because it is the only way she can save him from ruin.

It's a heart-breaking and heart-warming look at different kinds of love.

Favourite film?

Impossible to decide between *Blade Runner*, which stunned me with its design and creation of a future world when it came out in 1982, and *My Octopus Teacher*, the 2020 film of a man's relationship with a young female Octopus. Although one's a sci-fi drama and the other is a documentary, both are visually beautiful with compelling stories.

I defy anyone not to be deeply moved



when the replicant, Roy Batty, talks about the moments of his extraordinary life being 'lost, like tears in rain' then dies in *Blade Runner*, and when the octopus dies shortly after her eggs hatch as is entirely natural.

Favourite song?

At the moment I can't stop listening to Paul Weller's version of *I'm Wishing On A Star*. The combination of what I used to think was a rather saccharine song, Weller's (above) slightly croaky, soulful voice and the funky sound are irresistible.

Favourite place?

My favourite place is my home where I write. My debut thriller *On The Edge* starts with a lighthouse in a wild, night-time storm lashing a young woman hanging from the edge of its viewing platform. Unconscious and dreaming, she is my protagonist, Jen Shaw, a passionate and daredevil climber.

The story follows her search to find out how she got there and takes her on a wild ride through Cornwall's coves and rainswept moors and, even, into an ancient tin mine.

Favourite food?

I'm a rubbish cook but very good at eating and enjoying food. Luckily my husband is a great cook, so we're a perfect match.

My favourite food is lemon meringue pie. I like the lemon part to have so much citrus it's almost bitter so when it's partnered with sweet meringue whose crispness has a hint of marshmallow inside and a dollop of Cornish clotted cream, it's a mouthful of paradise.

On The Edge by Jane Jesmond, published by Oldcastle Books Ltd, £9.99, is out now

