

Animating Libraries Transcript

Opening soundscape – the sound of multiple voices talking over each other, getting louder.

Certain words are picked out

‘Oh am I on the television?’

‘It’s really interesting’

‘Favourite book’

‘Fastidious stylist’

Multiple voices fade out and one voice remains...

‘It’s amazing the response we’ve got from people, simply by opening us doors and letting them back in’

Sound of the ticket machine issuing receipts underscores the following:

‘Oh, the atmosphere, the job, I just love it, I love working in libraries, the people that you meet, you never get two days that are the same. IT’s a family that you work with and even the people that come into the library, they become part of your family as well.’

‘I just enjoy reading, I’ve always done it’

‘Well I’ve come specifically to pick up a book I’m after’

‘Mainly to use the computers to do my job search and that’

‘A lot of people come in just for a chat’

‘So libraries are a bit bigger than books these days’

Music fades in, it signals the start of a theatre performance – Christopher Nibble, and underscores the following exchange:

‘Oh... hello there everybody, hello! Ooh, hello, I wasn’t expecting visitors today. My name is Claire’

‘And my name is Catherine’

‘Welcome to, Dandyville!’

Music fades out

‘Some maps today, but usually I come for family history as well. It’s more information and also on a Monday you’ve got the history people there as well, so they help you more as well.’

‘Can you find something that sounds like shhhhhhhhhake?’

‘It’s always nice when you’re here when there’s storytimes or there’s activities going on and the library’s very bustley’

Sounds of a young Mum and toddler enjoying a book together. The toddler is pointing and saying ‘Wow’, mum is making enthusiastic noises and asking questions about what they can see. ‘Is that a fire engine?’ in the background there are sounds of people using the library.

‘Exciting, because it’s an upbeat word’

‘Vibrant, culture’

‘Favourite word?’

‘Hippocampus is a pretty good word’

‘Kali and Spanish’ (old Yorkshire words for sherbert and liquorice)

‘Erm, probably emporium’

'Chocolate'

'Cynophile, C Y N O P H I L E and it's somebody who loves dogs'

'Farcical!' (giggles)

'We haven't got words yet, just a lot of mms and ahs, especially with breakfast time when there's a new flavour on the table!'

'Favourite word? Antidisestablishmentarianism' (laughter)

'I just like words, I do like words.'

'Oh, a word that I really like that I don't use often is cacophony'

'I can tell you my least favourite word'

'And she really hates the word'

(Together) 'Moist!'

Music starts to fade in, in the background:

'So I like really good feel good books, there's an author called – have you heard of Millie Johnson?'

'Ooh, that's a tricky one'

'I love books, books are just a way, to not be here in the real world'

'I'm not really a big reader, but I do like thrillers and things like that'

'Some of Asimov, maybe the robot universe or something.'

The sounds of a mum and toddler can be heard in the background:

'Crime, wild stories that could be true.'

'I have too many favourite books, too many favourite authors' (laughs)

'No, I would never get sick of books, never get sick of books'

'My favourite book is Treasure Island, it has been from a boy and I've a copy there from, ooh forty odd year old, you know, and I read it every year, I can't put it down.'

'I like a book to grab me on the first two pages.'

'My favourite book of all time is A Christmas Carol'

Sound of gentle pastoral piano and flute music fades in the background and continues under the following:

'Murders, anything bloodthirsty'

'Erm, Cat in the Hat'

'I've always thought that, it doesn't matter if you're forty or fifty year old, man or woman. If it's a good story, it's a good story.'

'During lockdown I was re-reading favourite books which I've got in the house.'

'I like to read before I go to sleep at night.'

'and I am a bookworm'

'It's really really important and great, well and it's just good, reading.'

Sounds of a lady ordering an audio book at the library desk as the music finishes and the theatre performance – The Hare and the Tortoise, begins!

'Don't panic everybody, Hare, is, here!' Sporting music plays and then fades out.

Drama workshop sounds can be heard with dramatic, 'evil' laughter from several voices:

'The first book I ever read was Adrian Mole, aged 13 and 3/4.'

'Hmm, I like Horror'

'I just can't read a book about cutting things up, (laughs) I can't do it!'

'Me favourite book is Watership Down'

'I like non-fiction, I like books on philosophy, ethics, history, religion'

Sounds of people ordering books at the library desk can be heard in the background:

'I like to read historical fiction'

'Me favourite one's Dilly Court'

'You can't imagine the feeling when you can read your favourite book in the original (language).'

Sounds of eerie guitar and piano music fades in, a Man's voice reads dramatically from a script:

'Some of you may recall, the strange affair of the Phantom of the Opera'

Some different theatrical music comes in and another actor's voice says:

'Ooh, what's this? A story... ..Talk amongst yourselves' (sounds of him moving around with difficulty)

At this point in the soundscape, more music fades in and the sound of multiple voices saying goodbye and leaving a workshop. This is followed by many voices layered over each other talking about books, words, library activities and you can only pick out odd words as at the beginning. It eventually fades out and we hear the words:

'Goodbye'