

# No. 1 Total Girl

totalgirl.com.au

THE COVER STAR YOU ASKED FOR...

Carly Rae!

24+ DIY projects inside



So you want to be a writer? Turn to page 85

Shhh! Selena's festive secret revealed

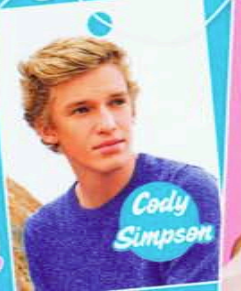
TG'S GIANT XMAS GIVEAWAY!

\$22,000 of prizes to win!

As seen on 7 TWO



## Get your POSTER FIX!



# Write on!

IF YOU DREAM OF ONE DAY BEING A WRITER THEN GET EXCITED! TG SPOKE TO THE AUTHOR OF THE EJ12 GIRL HERO SERIES, SUSANNAH MCFARLANE, ABOUT HOW YOU CAN BE AN AUTHOR TOO!

plus a girl hero saving the world. Except saving the world is the easy part!

**AT WHAT AGE DID YOU KNOW YOU WANTED TO BECOME A WRITER?**

I have always liked writing but it was only a few years ago that I started writing books.

**WHEN DID YOU WRITE YOUR FIRST STORY AND WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?**

I wrote my first story - which was actually the second book in the EJ12 Girl Hero series - four years ago. I had published *Zac Power* and realised girls could save the world just as well as boys! I wanted to write a story for my daughter, to show her that she, and all girls, could do anything.

**SUM UP EJ12 GIRL HERO IN JUST ONE SENTENCE.**

Mean girls, school and family

**HOW DID THE IDEA FOR EJ12 COME ABOUT?**

A lot of the family stuff is based on my family. But mostly it came about because I really wanted to be a spy and I still do!

**WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO BECOME A WRITER?**

Keep reading and keep writing, only write about things you really care about. Except school essays of course!

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT BEING A WRITER?**

You can do anything in a story, you can go anywhere, be anyone. You are only limited by your imagination!

**CAN YOU GIVE US A HINT ABOUT THE NEXT EJ12?**

I'm not going to give too much away but there are a few surprises about the SHINE Agency, including how Emma got recruited. Plus some twists and turns with that mean girl Nema.

SUSANNAH'S TOP TIPS FOR WRITING A GREAT STORY

1. "Even if you think it's awful, write. You can fix bad writing but you can't fix a blank page."
2. "Let other people help you make it better."
3. "Spend a lot of time not writing, but wondering. Wonder: 'What if...?'"



The latest book in the EJ12 series, *Kimono Code*, is out now. Keep your eyes peeled for the next installment, *Big Brother* - coming soon!

WORDS: MADIA STENNETT

To find out more about the EJ12 series and get the scoop on inside spy secrets, check out [ej12girlhero.com](http://ej12girlhero.com)

Finish these sentences:

**YOU SHOULD READ EJ12 IF YOU WANT TO...**

Go on a spy adventure with cool secret gadgets, animals and your best friends!

**IF I WASN'T A WRITER, I'D BE...**

What I still am, a publisher. Oh, and a spy!

**THE FIRST TIME I SAW MY BOOK IN A STORE I WAS...**

Proud but also really nervous - what if no-one liked it?!

