

— Author Interview —

The Age of Amy

CHANNEL '63

BY BRUCE EDWARDS

1) This is the third book in your *Age of Amy* series. What makes this one unique?

Each book sends 16-year-old Amy on some fantastic adventure, where she confronts issues that impact today's youth. This one takes her on a more personal journey: she is "divorcing" her parents. She is in search of the perfect family, and finds one through an enchanted TV that lets you talk to people in 1963. But Amy learns that family dynamics in those simpler times were no less problematic than they are today — that the squeaky-clean households of *Leave It To Beaver* and *Ozzie and Harriet* were a gross exaggeration. Amy now fears that alienating her parents was a big mistake.

2) Why 1963?

It was that post-war period when everyone had a job, a car, and a house with a rose garden out front. The book visits the time just prior to the Kennedy assassination. It was an idyllic era before war protesters, race riots, and hippies — things that have come to define the 60s as we think of it today.

3) I noticed that you brought back the "Fritterz" — the half-human/half-animal creatures that run the local theme park.

Animals have been observing humans since the dawn of mankind. So, I gave them a voice. If animals could talk, imagine what they could tell us about ourselves. Their role in these stories is to offer an objective, third-party perspective on the absurd things we humans do and don't even know it.

4) Amy's love interest is an aspiring songwriter. He writes a love song to her, the lyrics of which can be read in the book. I see that you have produced a music video for us to HEAR the song as well.

I think all novels should have theme songs, don't you? TV shows and movies do, why not books? Actually, I used to write songs for a living, including radio jingles and pop tunes that I recorded. Adding music to a story allows the reader a greater emotional connection with the text.

5) What crazy adventure will you send Amy on next?

Book #4 is subtitled "Behind The Fun Zone." It deals with how easily people are manipulated into making bad choices — kind of like what happened to Pinocchio. It's really a modern-day retelling of that classic tale. If all goes well, it should be out by Summer, 2015.

 Lambert Hill

P.O. Box 1478, Brea, CA 92822-1478

Books@LambertHill.com

www.AgeOfAmy.com

The Age of Amy: Channel '63

Copyright © 2014 by Bruce Edwards

ISBN: 9780983760443