**Jane Hardstaff**

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?url=http://www.towerhamletsmums.com/2014/thms-interview-author-jane-hardstaff&rct=j&frm=1&q=&esrc=s&sa=U&ved=0ahUKEwjAgfvbwu3NAhWKXhoKHV_xAZwQwW4IFjAA&usg=AFQjCNGQuEYlhvQshyc4UTswscs1RsHrjQ)

Jane Hardstaff grew up in Wiltshire with her brothers, hunting mayfly-nymphs with her father and reading fairy tales with her mother. She now lives in London’s East End near the River Thames, her inspiration for “The Executioner’s Daughter” and “River Daughter”.

Whilst growing up Jane wanted to be a marine biologist, then as a teenager an illustrator or artist and it wasn’t until she was quite grown up that she realised that she loved writing stories.

Jane also works as a television producer. All her work involves drinking tea and eating lots of toast.

Visit the website [www.janehardstaff.com](http://www.janehardstaff.com)

Francesca Simon was born in the United States. For ten years she worked as a freelance journalist. She now writes full-time and has had many books published including the best-selling Horrid Henry series. She lives in North London with her family.

Horrid Henry books and audio have sold over 15 million copies in the UK alone and CITV have made a hugely popular cartoon series based on the nation's favourite naughty boy. Francesca Simon is the third most borrowed children's author from UK libraries.