

PAN: 1 (INTERVIEW 03)

SFX: MUSIC

NARRATOR: You're listening to Story Trails: the interviews - a micro-series preceding the complete series launch, by Beccy Stirrup.

SFX: MUSIC - FADES

SFX: WOODLAND

PAN: What was that? Oh yes, name and occupation... Name, Pan (laughs). Old family name... Did you see that? What? Oh... Yes... Occupation: I'm a rare creature magicalist. It's like one of those human naturalists only... (laughs) with magic (laughs) ohhhh. Do you see that? Hunker down for a moment, hunker down... Goodness... We could be looking at a nest of story-sticks. Oh, I haven't seen any story-sticks since the fairies disappeared... This could be a real find. But we must be, er... Quiet and ever so gentle.

SFX: WALKING THROUGH THE WOODLAND

PAN: You see what we do, what we do... Is approach with a gentle humility. And begin an overture of dialogue with the potential story-sticks by simply saying saying, Once Upon A Time. And you hold one up, to your ear... Ever so gently like this, and you repeat again 'Once Upon A Time...' And wait for the stick to whisper it's story

SFX: WOODLAND SOUNDS - OTHERWISE  
SILENCE

PAN: Shhhh... It may be about to speak...

SFX: WOODLAND SOUNDS - OTHERWISE  
SILENCE

PAN: Of course it could be that it's just a stick. Yes... Just a stick  
(tosses it aside)

SFX: THROWING A STICK

PAN: What was it you wanted to talk about? Oh... Yes. Humans. I understand that the Guide has put in the necessary paperwork, requesting that the barriers between the human and the magical realms be lifted in order to begin offering tours to human groups along the enchanted trail. Yes well, I suppose I don't mind as long they long as they leave the truly rare beings alone... Not that there are any these days of course. What's a magicalist to do... Oh, I say, do you think that could be a pile of singing sticks..?

SFX: FADE OUT

NARRATOR: You've been listening to Story Trails: the interviews - a micro-series preceding the full-series-launch of Story Trails: the ultimate package holiday - a podcast for grown-ups and children to enjoy together. This micro-series has been developed specifically to provide families with something fun to do during these tricky times. Each episode: introduces a character from the enchanted realm, gives you a creative

mission that, should you choose to accept, may result in your wonderful creations being displayed on the story trails website, and includes a chapter from the latest draft of my book: The Not-Bird. Keep listening for this week's creative mission and the chapter from The Not Bird.

SFX: SOUND

NARRATOR: This week's creative mission is to find, draw, or make your very own story-stick. Hold it up and say 'once upon a time' - what story does it tell you? Email pictures of your story stick and/or your stories to: [info@storytrails.co.uk](mailto:info@storytrails.co.uk) and keep checking the website to see your work displayed at [www.storytrails.co.uk](http://www.storytrails.co.uk). Keep listening for this week's chapter from The Not Bird.

SFX: SOUND

NARRATOR: The Not Bird is intended for children from the ages of 8-10, but some younger and some older children may enjoy it. The story includes themes of family, separation, friendship and identity. Towards the end of the book, it also includes some violence and death. It is a journey of discovery and found-family. These chapters are taken from the latest draft of the novel and the published book will likely be a bit different to the one you hear here. I hope you enjoy the following chapter.

SFX: SOUND

CHAPTER READING

SFX: SOUND

NARRATOR:

I hope you've enjoyed this episode of Story Trails: the interviews. A micro-series preceding the upcoming series: Story Trails: the ultimate package holiday This episode was created and acted by Beccy Stirrup, the wonderful music was provided by the talented King Rich. For a full list of sound effects and credits, please see the show notes. And thanks for coming on this journey with me, remember that words are magic, that's why putting letters in order, is called spelling.