

Stacy Davidowitz

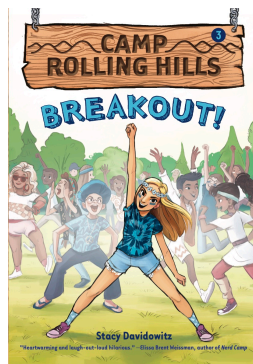
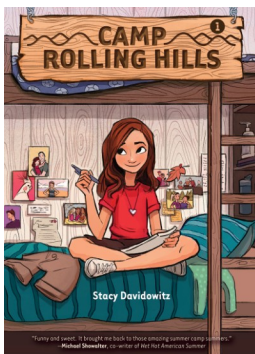
Author of the *CAMP ROLLING HILLS* series

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Stacy Davidowitz is an author, playwright, and screenwriter based in Manhattan. Her plays and musicals have been produced regionally and internationally, and her most recent indie feature film is in pre-production. She is also the author of the *Hanazuki* chapter books (Hasbro/ABRAMS). Stacy teaches theater and creative writing in the New York City public and private schools. Her alma maters are Tufts University, Columbia University, and Tyler Hill Camp, where she attended as a camper, counselor, and head staff.

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Q & A

1. *What are you offering summer camps?*

Anything from book club facilitation around a campfire to Q&As about the industry to creative writing workshops! All visits are tailored to the camp – think of the options below as a totally flexible menu!

2. *How long are your visits?*

The camp visits are tailored to the camp. I can be on the grounds for an hour or as long as three days.

3. *What age is the book geared toward?*

It's great for ages 8 – 12!

4. *Is it good for both girls and boys?*

Yes! The covers feature girls, but don't be deceived—the boys are on the back! The chapters alternate between the perspective of the girl protagonist and the boy protagonist.

5. *What's the series about?*

It's about twelve amazing 12-year-olds at sleepaway camp. Each book features all the kids but is told from the POV of one girl and one boy. Expect young love, scavenger hunts, underwear stealing, raids, midsummer dances, talent shows, robots, drag, campouts, s'mores, etc. You can read the back cover blurbs at www.camprollinghills.com as well as meet the characters and watch the book trailer! It's gotten great reviews – check 'em out on the website!

6. *When did the books come out?*

The first two books, *Camp Rolling Hills* and *Crossing Over*, launched on May 10, 2016. The third book, *Camp Rolling Hills: Breakout!* (yes, it's about Color War) came out on May 9, 2017. The fourth book comes out on April 24, 2018.

7. *It's inspired by a musical you co-wrote. Tell us more!*

Sure! The musical *Camp Rolling Hills* is written by Adam Spiegel, David Spiegel, and me. Adam wrote the music and the lyrics, and David and I wrote the book and the lyrics. It's super fun and catchy – you can listen to the songs at <http://www.camprollinghills.com/the-musical.html>. It's published by Steele Spring Stage Rights and can be performed by tweens, teens, or adults!

8. *What's your rate for author visits?*

It depends on what kind of visit I do! Rates are flexible.

9. *How many books would we have to order?*

As many as you'd like! My preference is 50+.

10. *Is there a discounted rate?*

Yes! Abrams Books is offering an exclusive discount to camps (50% off) and free shipping.

11. *How can we help you market the book?*

It would be amazing and so appreciated if you could share on social media and your camp website any pictures and videos taken during my visit. Plus include links for purchase and/or the series website!

12. *What is your camp experience?*

I am a camp lifer! I grew up at Tyler Hill Camp in Tyler Hill, PA and then went on to become a Junior Counselor, Counselor, Group Leader, and Division Leader! Now my brother is the Assistant Director of Tyler Hill Camp, my sister-in-law is the Head of Girls' Side there, and my mom most recently was the Director of the Southampton Racquet Club & Camp.

13. *What is your teaching experience?*

I have been teaching creative writing and theater in NYC public and private schools since 2010. During the school year, I teach seven days a week!

14. *What kind of other stuff do you write?*

Plays and screenplays! My plays have been produced around the world, and I have an indie feature in pre-production. I write for kids, tweens, teens, and adults. I also love talking to campers about my experience in the entertainment industry.

Writing Workshops

Playwriting

1. Campers write short plays inspired by moments or characters in *Camp Rolling Hills*
2. Campers write original plays set in their favorite camp locations (Social Hall, Bunk, Canteen, HC, etc.)

* The audience can tour camp to watch site-specific pieces

Monologue Writing

1. Campers write monologues from the perspective of a character in *Camp Rolling Hills*
2. Campers develop original characters and write monologues set at camp

Songwriting

1. Campers adapt moments from *Camp Rolling Hills* to song
2. Campers write their own SING and/or cabin songs set to original music or pre-existing music

Short Stories

1. Campers rewrite *Camp Rolling Hills* scenes from a different POV
2. Campers write alternate endings of *Camp Rolling Hills*' chapters
3. Campers write original stories set at camp

Letter Writing

1. Campers write home or to a friend about their favorite moment at camp
2. Campers write letters to themselves to be opened before becoming a Junior Counselor or Counselor
3. Campers create original characters and write letters to their friends' characters

* Final product: a compilation of letters for online or hard copy magazine publication.

Graphic Novel Making

1. Campers adapt scenes from *Camp Rolling Hills* into graphic novel format
2. Campers create original graphic novel shorts set at camp

Poetry

1. Campers write poems inspired by *Camp Rolling Hills*
2. Campers write poems inspired by their favorite moments at camp

Journalism

1. Campers write a book review of *Camp Rolling Hills* for the series' website
2. Campers interview staff members and campers about favorite camp memories, camp traditions, camp history, etc. for a short film or publication

Fun Challenges

In their writing, campers must include, for example, one piece of camp trivia, a camp tradition, a cheer, an inside joke, etc.

Thematic Writing

- a. Campers can write to a theme: sportsmanship, tolerance, friendship, etc.
- b. Campers can write about a favorite camp event, tradition, place, memory, etc.

Final Product

- a. Performance (coffee shop / open mic feel or site-specific)
- b. Literary Magazine—print or digital for camp website
- c. Book Trailer
- d. Short Film

Collaborations

Campers can write individually, in pairs, by bunk, or with his/her camp brother or sister.

Process

Campers can write from their favorite camp locations. There's nothing like rolling hills, sunsets, and the lake as inspiring backdrops.

Prizes

- a. Winning piece gets to be published on the *Camp Rolling Hills* website
- b. One camper / bunk gets to collaborate with author Stacy Davidowitz on a piece for the *Camp Rolling Hills* website

Book Club Questions

Generic:

1. As you read, **make a list of foods** you see mentioned in the story. Which of these foods best represents the book?
2. While you read, **find 3-5 words or phrases** you either don't understand, have never heard before or, really enjoyed how the author used it in the book.
3. What is the **theme or central message** of the book? What text, phrase, or passage supports your idea?
4. Do you have any **final thoughts** about the book?
5. Which character do you **relate most to**?
6. If you had written the book, **what would you have titled it**?
7. If this book had a **sequel**, what do you think would happen?
8. How would you rate this book on a **scale of one to ten**? Why?

Camp Rolling Hills specific:

1. Who are your **favorite character(s)**? Which character(s) do you relate most to?
2. What is **one activity** at *Camp Rolling Hills* you'd like to do at your camp?
3. What is one camp activity that you'd like to see the **characters participate in** for future *Camp Rolling Hills* books?
4. Smelly developed as a character throughout the story. What is one sentence that captures what he was like **prior** to camp, one sentence that shows him changing **during** camp, and one sentence that illustrates who he has become by the **end** of the book?
5. Slimey developed as a character throughout the story. What is one sentence that captures what she was like **prior** to camp, one sentence

- that shows her changing **during** camp, and one sentence that illustrates who she has become by the **end** of the book?
6. What is your **favorite cabin name**? Can you identify who/what each of the **cabins is named after**?
 7. Which nickname in the book is your favorite? What are some of your **favorite nicknames** people hold at your camp?
 8. Throughout the book, Smelly struggles to **embrace his weirdness** at camp. Which event at camp was the **most significant** in helping him get there? Which character was the most helpful? How? Why?
 9. If *Camp Rolling Hills: Book One* had a **subtitle**, what would it be?
 10. If *Camp Rolling Hills* were made into a **movie**, which part would you want to play? How would you **cast your bunkmates**? How would you cast with **celebrities**?
 11. If you were the Anita Hillers, where would you have hidden the boys' underwear? Where in your own camp would make an **awesome hiding spot**?
 12. If you were competing in the **Robo-Hills Contest**, what kind of robot would you want to make? What special talent would your robot have?
 13. How do you think the **relationships/friendships** will evolve in future *Camp Rolling Hills* books?
 14. How would you rate this book on a **scale of sour-sauce to awesome-sauce**? Why?