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Dear Cornelia Funke,

When I first started to read your book, Inkspell, I thought, ‘Oh boy, another long book that will take forever to finish.’ As I read on, though, the book seemed to challenge me. It wanted me to become one with it, just as Meggie became one with Inkheart. It would be a risk, though. I would be open to all of the sadness and anger that the characters felt. But who said risks weren’t fun to take? I decided to accept the challenge.

I soon became lost in the world of fantasy. When I finally put the book down, I felt like I was coming from an extremely good dream back to the real world. During the time I spent in Inkspell, I learned a valuable lesson. Nobody’s future is written yet, so live your life to its fullest. Even if you think that your future is written, it can be easily changed, which Fenoglio proves by rewriting Mo’s future.

Inkspell became my own little world that I could go to if I wanted to escape from my brother or thinking about my huge writing project due the next day. I also began to share the characters’ emotions. I felt Elinor’s anger at Orpheus and remembered the time that my brother hooked me up to my dog’s leash and tied me to a chair. Resa’s sadness for Mo made me think of when my cat had to be put down, and Farid’s admiration of Dustfinger reminded me of how I used to watch my brother play the piano in awe. It was these feelings that helped me realize that you shouldn’t get upset over your future because it will still hold happiness and pain, even in another world.

Now that I have visited the world of Inkspell, I’ve learned that the future isn’t set. It can change at the last minute, but it will still hold a mix of emotions. If you worry too much about what will happen, you’ll miss out on what is happening. Thank you, for this message of hope and happiness.

Sincerely,

Lauren Naylor

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