

INTERVIEW WITH KATE BUSH.

Interviewer: Hello, Kate. Thank you so much for agreeing to be interviewed today.

Kate: You know, I have heard so much about Watford Writers, so when the chance came, I didn't give the matter a second thought. But I was hoping the interviewer would be.....anyway, let's move on.

Interviewer: Wonderful. Anyway, has lockdown given you the opportunity to write any more songs?

Kate: I'd love to say, 'Yes', but the truth is that I've set my mind on revising some of my old songs.

Interviewer: Really?

Kate: Yes. I've been re-recording '*Wuthering Heights*'.

Interviewer: Fantastic! But tell me how you came to write it in the first place.

Kate: Most people assume that I wrote the song because I was inspired by the book. That's true, of course, but I read the book after having watched an adaptation of the story on the BBC. Then I discovered that Emily Bronte and I shared the same birthday and, well, I was only 18 at the time, and at that age you don't fear failure, so I just went for it! My parents had a friend who knew Dave Gilmour of *Pink Floyd*, so we got a recording session organised, and I'm delighted to say that we recorded my vocals in one take.

Interviewer: Wow! That would be unheard of these days! I was working on a kibbutz in Israel during the summer of 1978 and that was the song that I shall always associate with my time there.

Kate: One of the things about my music career that most people don't know is that I recorded a version of Elton John's *Rocket Man* and the readers of the Observer voted it the greatest-ever cover back in 1991.

Interviewer: Are there no limits to your talents? Now, my friends have said I have to ask you about your life outside music.

Kate: Well, I was brought up in Kent. Dad was a doctor and Mum was a staff nurse, who came from Ireland. I've got two older brothers, Paddy and John. Mum was a traditional Irish dancer and Dad played the piano.

Interviewer: And your own family?

Kate: I am married to the lovely Dan McIntosh and we have one son, the adorable Bertie. To tell you the truth, it was Bertie who inspired me to start playing live again. And what mother can resist the demands of her teenage son?

Interviewer: Absolutely! So Kate, one final question. Do you have a message for the writers of Watford who, in their own way, aspire to achieve the artistic success that you have achieved?

Kate: Just one. It is something that my mother used to say to us as we were growing up. 'Blessed are the cracked, for they let in the light.' You know, when I was growing up people used to say that I was a bit cracked.

Interviewer: But listening to your songs, you have definitely 'let in the light'. Kate Bush, thank you so much. I know you haven't toured since 2014, but we'd all love to see you back.

Kate: Maybe one day. Who knows?

Interviewer: Chris McDermott.

Interviewee: Kate Bush.

499 words (Spoken).