

Poet

is the one word that people are afraid to use because it sounds pretentious. If you painted in watercolours you'd say you were a painter, but for some reason that word poet has an arrogance attached to it. It sounds lofty but it shouldn't, and one of the things I want to do is allow people to use that word and not be afraid to use it. Take ownership of it. Don't let academics and snobs take it away from you and tell you it belongs in schools and universities and books and it doesn't belong to you. Because I was you and I didn't think poetry belonged to me and it took me a long time to discover it, and when I did it opened a whole world for me. I really think poetry and the arts can transform life. And no one should be excluded from that.

- Sarah Crossan

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