Joanne Harris was born in 1964 in Barnsley, Yorkshire. She is a British novelist known for exploring themes of folklore, family roots, magic, and gastronomy in her novels. If wishes were horses, beggars would ride is a proverb and nursery rhyme that suggests if wishing could make things happen, even the most destitute people would have everything they wanted. This proverb has a Roud Folk Song Index number of 20004.