



## Episode 42 - Graphic Novels



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**Gavin Aung Than** is a New York Times bestselling cartoonist and creator of Zen Pencils, a cartoon blog which adapts inspirational quotes into comic stories, and is currently working on the middle grade graphic novel series **Super Sidekicks**, published by Penguin Random House Australia.

After working in the corporate graphic design industry for 8 years he quit his unfulfilling job to focus on his true passion: drawing comics. Gavin launched Zen Pencils at the start of 2012, a cartoon blog which adapts inspirational quotes into comic stories, and hasn't looked back since. Zen Pencils has been featured by The Washington Post, National Geographic, Slate, BuzzFeed, Gawker, Brain Pickings, was named one of the Internet's top 100 websites in 2013 by PCMag and has been collected into four books.

His current project **Super Sidekicks** is a fun-filled action adventure middle grade series that pays homage to the superhero comics Gavin loved as a kid. **Book 1: No Adults Allowed** and **Book 2: Ocean's Revenge** are out now. **Book 3** in the series, **Trial of Heroes**,

is due for release in April 2020.

(PHOTO: Wendy Cartwright Photography)

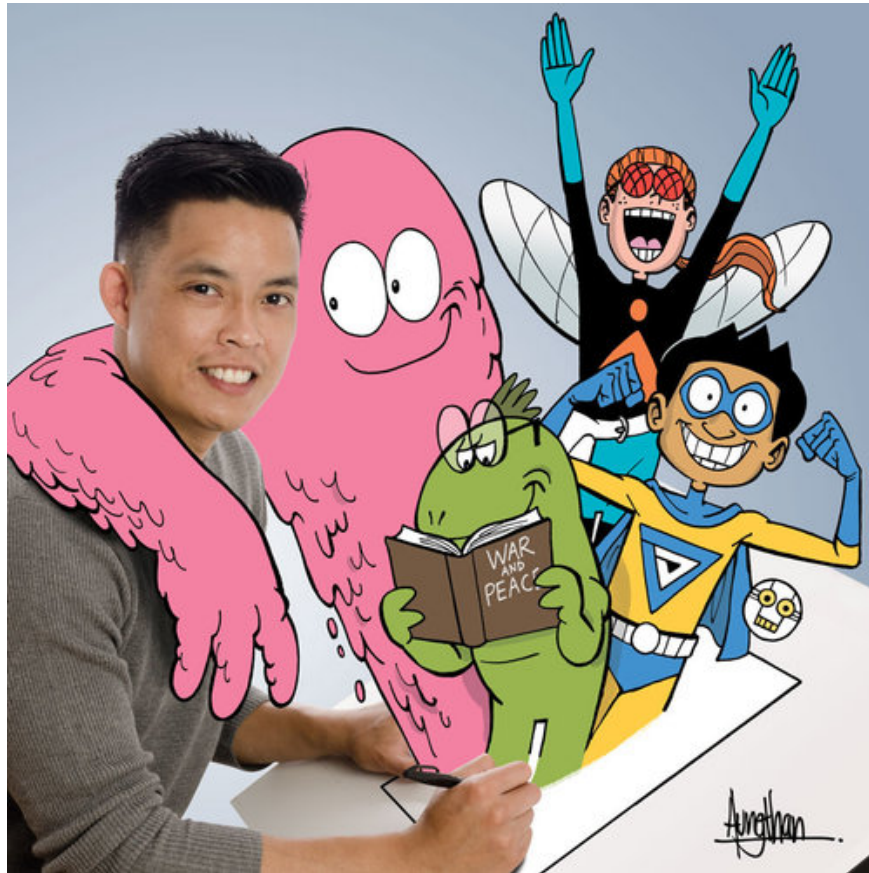
**Find out more about Gavin at:**

Website: [www.aungthan.com](http://www.aungthan.com)

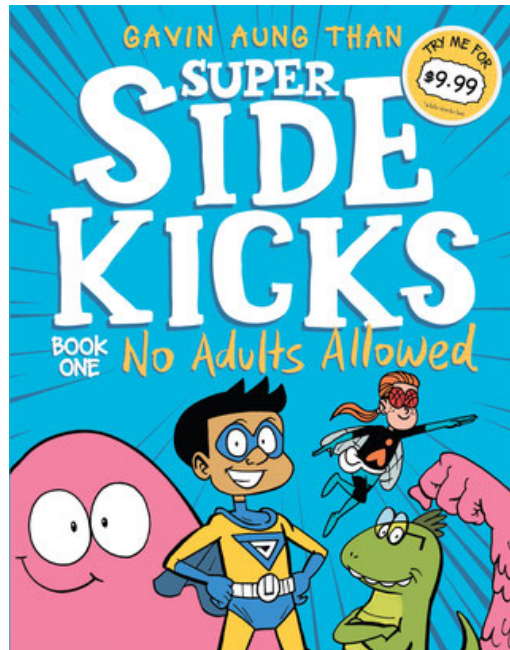
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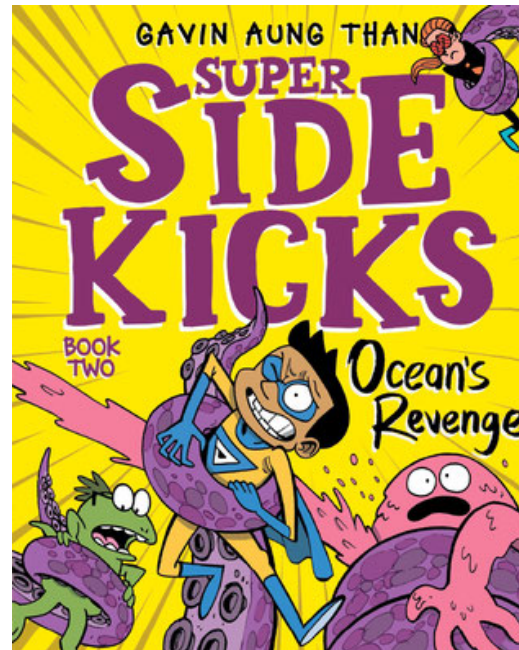
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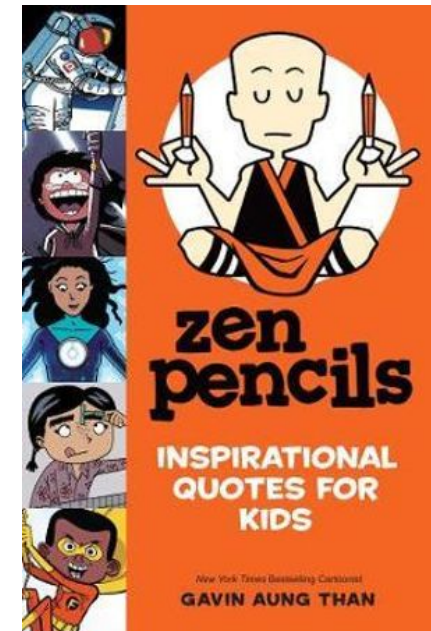
**Books by Gavin Aung Than**



[Super Sidekicks 1: No Adults Allowed](#)



[Super Sidekicks 2: Ocean's Revenge](#)



[Zen Pencils: Inspirational Quotes for Kids](#)

## Kids Capers - Nat & Ben's Question Time with Mike Barry

### ABOUT MIKE:

**Mike Barry** is the writer and illustrator of **Action Tank**, an amazing graphic novel series made for amazing kids. He created Action Tank because he loves comics and he loves kids, and will take any opportunity to bring those things together.

Check out his Kickstarter campaign, where you can get signed copies of Book 1 and the brand new Book 2 at [actiontank2.com](http://actiontank2.com)

**Find out more about Mike and his books at:**

Website: [actiontankcomic.com](http://actiontankcomic.com)

Instagram: [@mikebarrywashere](https://www.instagram.com/mikebarrywashere)

Twitter: [@mike\\_barry](https://twitter.com/mike_barry)



**MIKE'S BOOKS:**



Action Tank - Books 1 & 2

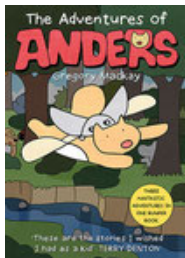
### ABOUT BEN:

**Ben** is an almost 8 year old who loves reading stories, hearing stories and - most of all - telling stories. He's read the entire Wimpy Kid and Billy B Brown series multiple times, and also enjoys comics, podcasts and fishing with his dad.

Ben is not only a big inspiration for his dad Mike's Action Tank graphic novels, he's also a big supporter of them, having made more than a few sales at in the playground.



## Whatcha Readin'?



Kate recommends **The Adventures of Anders** by Gregory McKay, published by Allen and Unwin. [allenandunwin.com/browse/books/childrens/childrens-fiction/The-Adventures-of-Anders](http://allenandunwin.com/browse/books/childrens/childrens-fiction/The-Adventures-of-Anders)



Liz recommends **Guts** by Raina Telgemeier, published by Scholastic. [kids.scholastic.com/kids/book/guts-by-raina-telgemeier/](http://kids.scholastic.com/kids/book/guts-by-raina-telgemeier/)

## Shout-out

This episode, Nat gives a shoutout to **Little Literature Co.** and their multi-award winning card game **Talu Tales**, that sparks an interest in learning STEM through storytelling and creative play. Check out more about their story telling journey below.

Website: [littlature.co](http://littlature.co)

Facebook: [@littleliteratureco](https://www.facebook.com/littleliteratureco)

Instagram: [@littleliteratureco](https://www.instagram.com/littleliteratureco)

Twitter: [@littlelitco](https://twitter.com/littlelitco)



Nat recommends the **Amulet** series by Kazu Kibuishi, published by Graphix.  
[kids.scholastic.com/kids/book/the-stonekeeper-by-kazu-kibuishi/](https://kids.scholastic.com/kids/book/the-stonekeeper-by-kazu-kibuishi/)

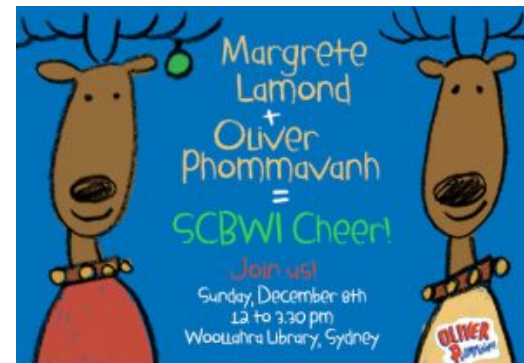


## On Our Radar

On our radar this week is the **SCBWI** Sydney Xmas party with special guests Oliver Phommavanh and Margrete Lamond.

Info at: <https://australiaeastnz.scbwi.org/events/book-craft-and-holiday-cheer/>

Tickets at: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=566884&>





## Competition Details



by 5pm Tuesday 17th December to be in the running.

This episode we have a ripper Graphic Novel prize pack to give away! That's right, strap in, because not only do we have both of Gavin Aung Than's first two **Super Sidekicks: No Adults Allowed** and **Ocean's Revenge** but also a signed copy of Mike Barry's first graphic novel, **Action Tank: Book 1**. More illustrated action than you can throw a stick at!

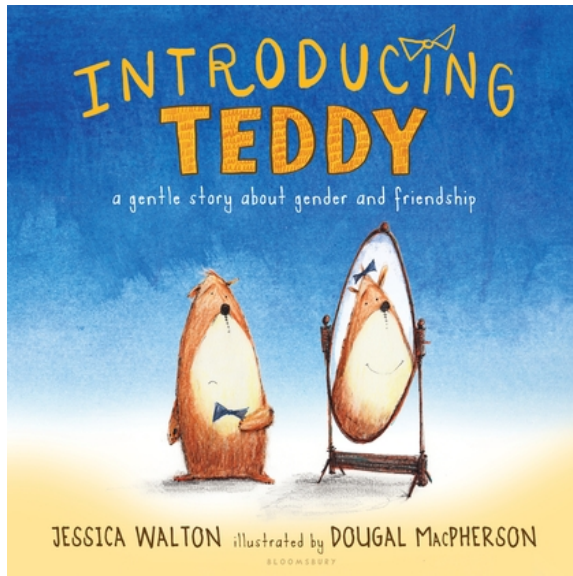
Head to our [WIN](#) page and simply tell us *your favourite graphic novel for kids*.

Enter your answer (or ask a parent to)

## Other Bits & Pieces

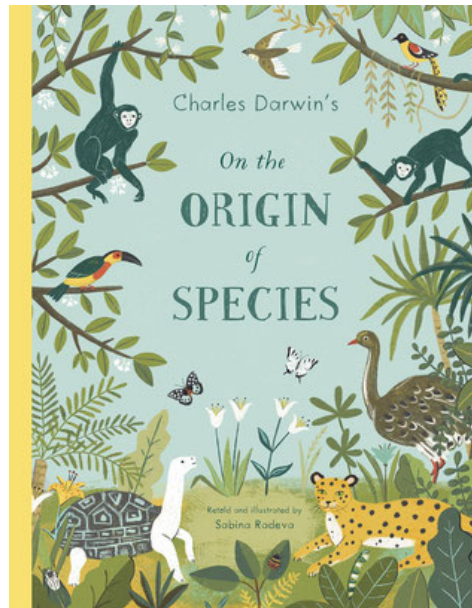
### BOOKS ON KICKSTARTER:

On this episode we talk about some other great books who also got their start on Kickstarter, including...



**Introducing Teddy**

by Jessica Walton and Dougal MacPherson



**Charles Darwin's On The Origin of Species**

by Sabina Radeva



**Winter of the White Bear**

by Martin Ed Chatterton

**CBCA MAURICE SAXBY CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:**



Nat also talks about the **Maurice Saxby Creative Development Program** run by the **CBCA** down in Melbourne. It's where Nat and Mike Barry met and she had the best two weeks of her life.

Applications are now open until 31 Jan 2020.

Find out more at [www.writingwa.org/opportunities/maurice-saxby-creative-development-program/](http://www.writingwa.org/opportunities/maurice-saxby-creative-development-program/)



## Thanks

To illustrator Marianne Khoo (and her assistant Max) for designing the One More Page podcast logo and other associated images. And to our sound editor Adam Orłowski for his wonderful audio genius - check out his other work at [www.aosd.tk](http://www.aosd.tk)

## Want to know more?

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Do you have any feedback or suggestions for future episodes? Want to share with us what you're reading? Email us at [onemorepagepodcast@gmail.com](mailto:onemorepagepodcast@gmail.com) or send us a message through our [CONTACT](#) page.

*all illustrations have been done by Marianne Khoo who we love & appreciate more than she can ever imagine!*

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