



**DIFFERENCE
ENGINE
CATALOGUE**

2024

ABOUT DIFFERENCE ENGINE

Difference Engine is an independent comics publisher based in Singapore. We are inspired by stories from Asia, and we are committed to publishing diverse, well-written, and beautifully illustrated comics of all genres and for all ages. We collaborate closely with Southeast Asian creators, both new and experienced, with genuine and thought-provoking ideas to share.

Difference Engine was founded in 2018 and is part of the Potato Productions group of companies.

BEHIND THE NAME

An encounter with the Difference Engine, a mechanical calculator, led Ada Lovelace down a path she would never look back from. She is now known as the world's first programmer due to her work with Charles Babbage and the Analytical Engine. She defied 19th century conventions and continues to inspire innovators and creators today.

We want the comics we publish at Difference Engine to be similar catalysts, to nudge readers to look at the world a bit differently. Who knows what they will see?

Cover art by May Thu, inspired by characters from *Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma*, *A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy*, *Worlds Apart: A Conversation About Mental Health*, *Bearing Witness*, *Two Tails*, *Afterlife*, and *Magical Sweet Gula*.



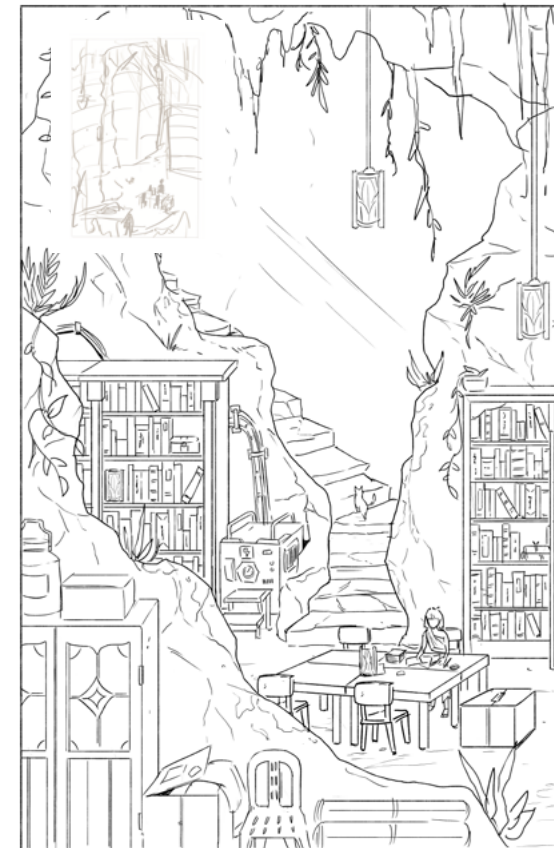
Art from "A Call" by Nadhir Nor, from *SOUND: A Comics Anthology*

CONTENTS

02	Upcoming Projects	36	DE Shorts Imprint
12	Difference Engine Publishing	44	Character Licensing
15	Children	46	Merchandise
26	Young Adult		
30	Adult		

All information in this catalogue is accurate at the time of print but is subject to change. Please visit www.differenceengine.sg for the latest details.

UPCOMING PROJECTS



A collection of character and environment designs from *To the Last Gram* and *Tiger Girls*

Difference Engine is always looking to push boundaries with mediums and publish comics that entice readers to explore a story beyond words, panels, and pages.

Our upcoming titles in 2024 mark our first foray into experimenting with the webcomic and audio forms. Read on to find out more about *Tiger Girls* and *To the Last Gram*.

Tiger Girls

WRITER: Felicia Low-Jimenez | ILLUSTRATOR: Claire Low

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Theme: Fantasy, Mythology

Webcomic Release: Jul 2024

Print Release: 2025

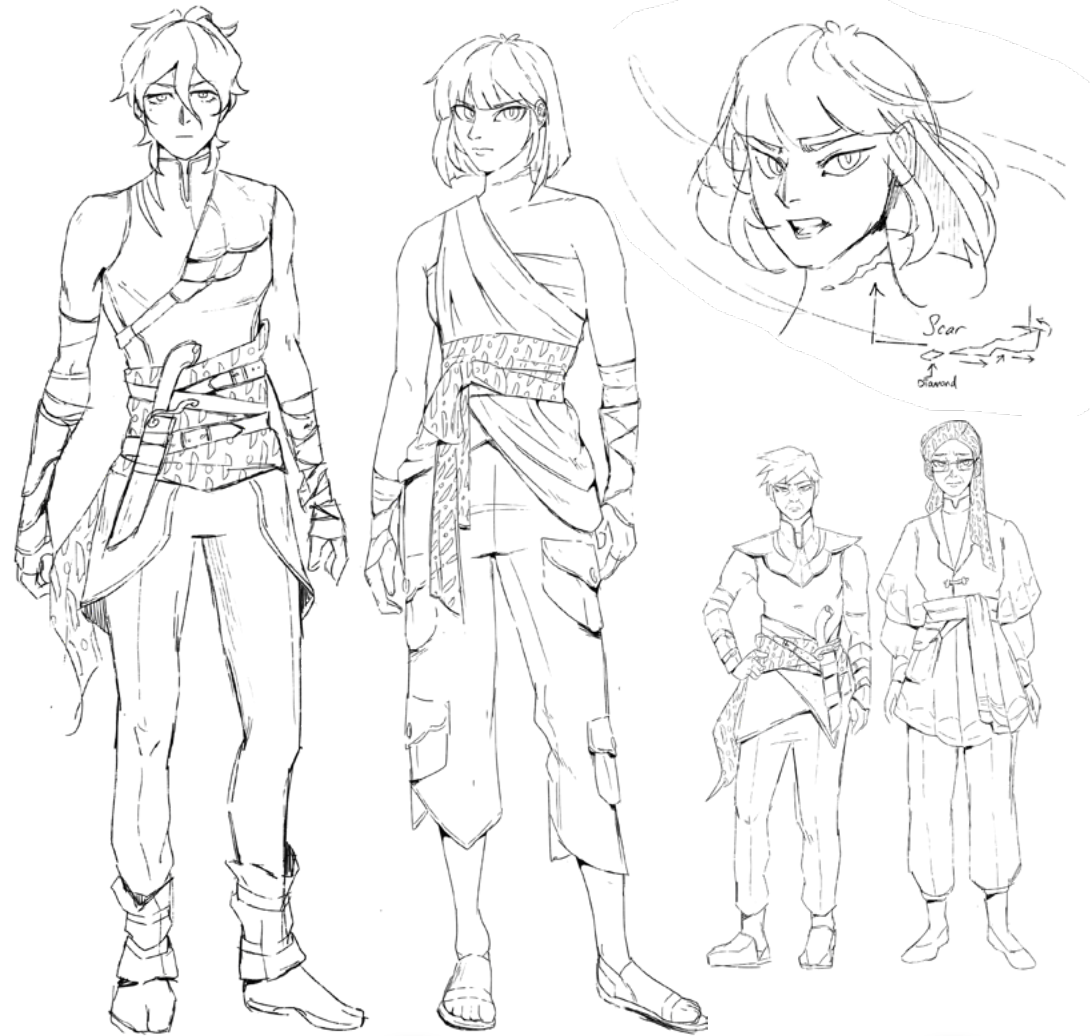
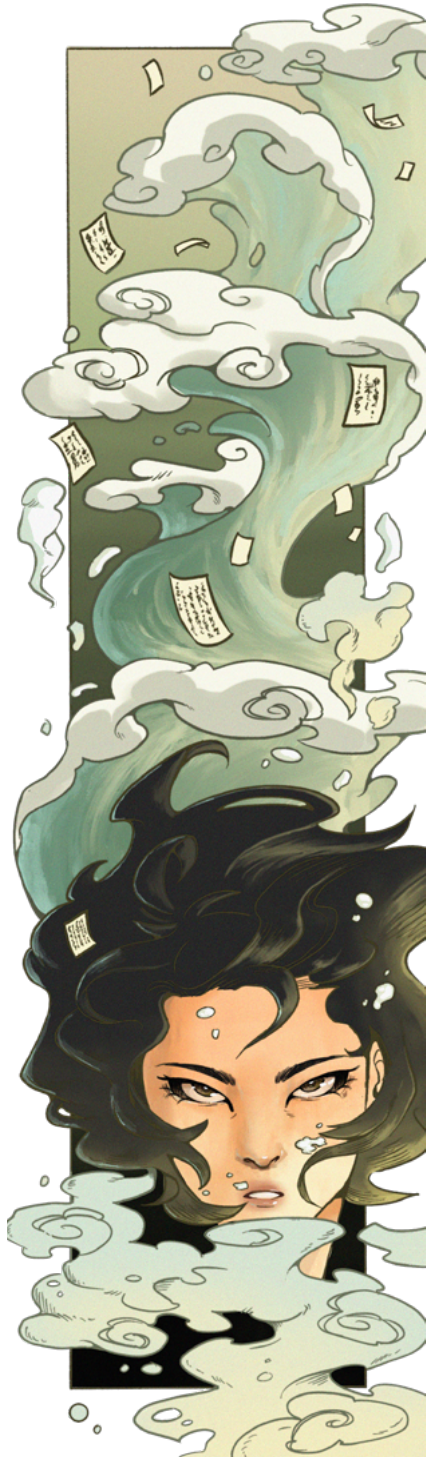
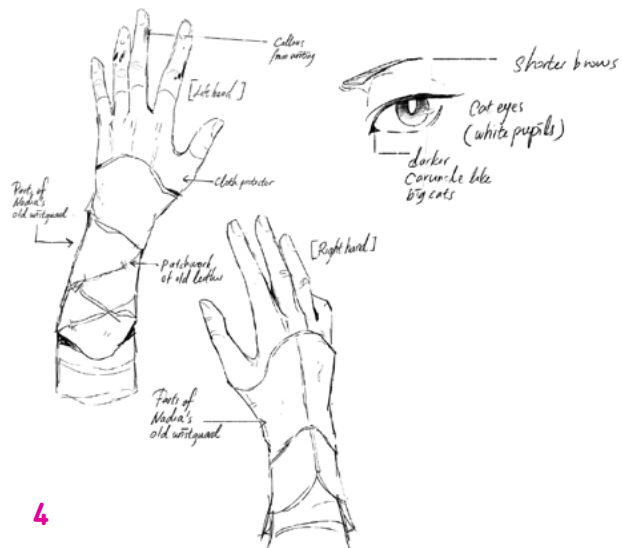
Rights: Worldwide

ABOUT THE COMIC

Marked by their zodiac sign, the Tiger Girls live in constant fear and anxiety, mounting their resistance against impending attacks while living in the shadows.

Behind the scenes, young Suling resentfully toils as a record-keeper, while yearning to be on the frontlines, fighting alongside her sign sisters. However, an unexpected visitor arriving at their hidden location will upend her world entirely...

Look forward to this webcomic and print comic adaptation of the original short story *Tiger Girls*, first published in *Fish Eats Lion Redux*.



ABOUT THE WRITER

Felicia Low-Jimenez believes that stories have the power to change the world. She's also one half of the writing team behind the best-selling *Sherlock Sam* series of children's books. Find her at www.sherlocksam.wordpress.com.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Claire Low is a highly visual individual with an interest in telling stories. Her works range from illustrations and graphic design to filmmaking and scriptwriting. In her spare time, she draws fantasy-inspired works on her art account on Instagram: [@comatomato](https://www.instagram.com/comatomato).

To the Last Gram

WRITER: Shreya Davies | ILLUSTRATOR: Vanessa Wong



Category: Young Adult Fiction

Theme: Eating Disorders, Mental Health

Print release: Oct 2024

Audio release: 2025

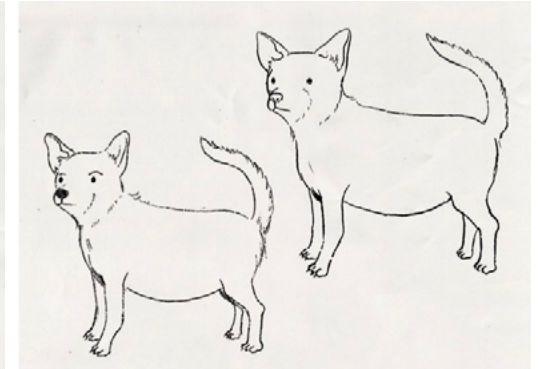
Rights: Worldwide

ABOUT THE BOOK

Through her school days, where she must negotiate a precarious balancing act between her culture and fitting in, to her teenage years where appetites must be managed to keep up appearances, to her early adulthood where responsibilities feel overwhelming, Divya journeys from feelings of emptiness to once again finding fulfilment within.

Combining evocative comics and expressive prose, *To the Last Gram* is an honest and hopeful story of feeling at odds with and finding a home in one's community, family, and body, and of the yet-unfurling journey to embrace the fullness of life.

Stay tuned also for the forthcoming digital adaptation of *To the Last Gram*, which will expand on the possibilities of the DE Shorts imprint with audio elements to further immerse readers in Divya's world!



ABOUT THE WRITER

Shreya Davies has edited comics, literary fiction, and non-fiction publications. Her short stories have appeared in *The Epigram Books Collection of Best New Singaporean Short Stories (Vol 4)* and *Mahogany Journal*. She never leaves home without a book in tow.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Vanessa Wong is an illustrator and graphic designer who finds beauty in mundanity. Drawing inspiration from people and interactions in her daily life, she hopes to use her art to find humour in and celebrate such moments. When she isn't drawing, you can find her somewhere, staring at nothing. Instagram: @tradervans.



DELAY: A Comics Anthology

EDITORS: Charis Loke & Paolo Chikiamco



Category: Adult Fiction

Theme: Anthology

Release: 2025

Rights: Distribution only
(Worldwide)

ABOUT THE BOOK

Looming milestones, and missed connections. Resisting mainstream expectations, and doing life at your own pace. What does *DELAY* mean to you? Writers and illustrators from all around Southeast Asia take on this theme in an anthology curated by guest editors Charis Loke and Paolo Chikiamco, telling stories close to their hearts while exploring the potential of the comics medium to depict the passage of time.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Charis Loke is a Malaysian illustrator and educator telling stories with images. Her work takes root in both fictional and real-world cultures, whether she's making fantasy maps or board games about Malaysian markets and kaki lima. She has an MA in Visual Sociology from Goldsmiths and has an interest in drawing and mapping as arts research. She also edits and curates non-fiction comics and visuals for Southeast Asian nonprofits and publishers, including co-editing *SOUND: A Comics Anthology*, published by Difference Engine. Visit her website here: www.charisloke.com.

Paolo Chikiamco, from the Philippines, is a lawyer and writer of prose, comics, and interactive fiction. His prose has been published in anthologies such as *The Sea is Ours* and *The Best of Philippine Speculative Fiction*, and his interactive wrestling novel *Slammed!* was released by Choice of Games. As an editor, he put together *Alternative Alamat*, an anthology of stories that reimagine Philippine myth and folklore. As a comics writer, he has collaborated with some of the country's most talented artists.



Magical Sweet Gula 2 & 3

CO-WRITERS & CO-ILLUSTRATORS: Johanes Park & Jessica Leman

Category: Children's Fiction

Theme: Fantasy, Friendship

Release: 2025 & 2026

Rights: Worldwide

ABOUT THE BOOK

The adventures of Gula and her friends continue! Stay tuned for the next two instalments in the *Magical Sweet Gula* trilogy, which will see more spellbinding showdowns, adventures spanning both the Terran and magical worlds, unexpected encounters with new characters, and a whole lot more delicious treats!

ABOUT THE CO-WRITERS & CO-ILLUSTRATORS

Johanes Park and Jessica Leman are an artist-writer couple based in Jakarta, Indonesia. Inspired by Johanes' childhood experiences growing up with both Korean and Indonesian identities, the duo first created *Magical Sweet Gula* together in 2015, to share a story of acceptance and friendship with young people who feel "different".



UPCOMING

Unbecoming Maya

WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR: Andeasyand

Category: Young Adult Fiction 13+

Theme: Menstruation, Coming-of-Age

Release: 2026

Rights: Worldwide

ABOUT THE BOOK

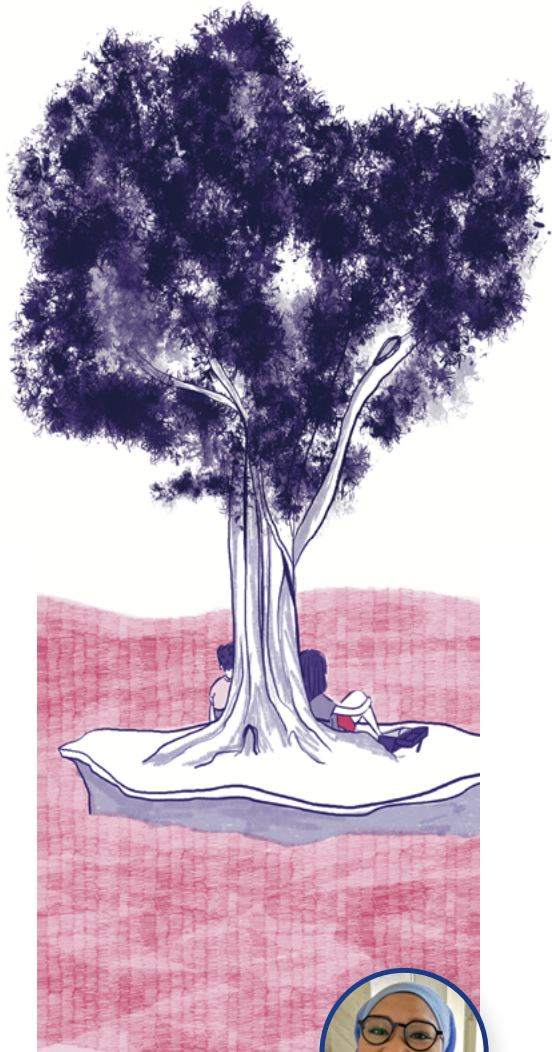
For as long as Maya can remember, she has meandered through life at the same rhythm: Waking up at 6.30AM. Putting the kettle on. Making oatmeal for breakfast and leaving it to cool to the perfect temperature. Straightening her bed. Getting into her school uniform. Gobbling said breakfast down to rush out of the house to meet her best friend Jacob.

But one day, everything changes.

First she sees it in the little things. Then it comes all at once.

As Maya seeks to hold onto her sense of self in a changing body, she must also navigate the unspoken expectations and traditions of her community as they start to reveal themselves.

Unbecoming Maya is a coming-of-age story that explores the intricacies of adolescence, friendship, and bodily changes — and that sometimes, help can be found in the most unlikely places.



ABOUT THE WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR

Andeasyand is a Nurulhuda Izyan who wrote and illustrated *A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy*. She peddles puns and observations surrounding mental health, the period cycle, and everything in between through illustrations and long captions. When she isn't, she is making a crafty mess.

GENERAL SUBMISSIONS

If you have a story to tell, Difference Engine wants to hear from you!

We accept submissions for all age groups and of all genres. Both fiction and non-fiction pitches are welcome.

WE ACCEPT:

- Pitches or experimental ideas
- Original unpublished graphic novels
- Previously self-published comics, digital or print (Please indicate when it was previously published and through what channels)

YOUR FICTION SUBMISSION SHOULD CONTAIN:

- 50–100 word bios of each creator
- Description of the target readers
- One-page story synopsis including the conclusion
- Character bios
- Rough sketches of characters and settings (Of proposed work)
- Sample comics pages (From prior work)

YOUR NON-FICTION SUBMISSION SHOULD CONTAIN:

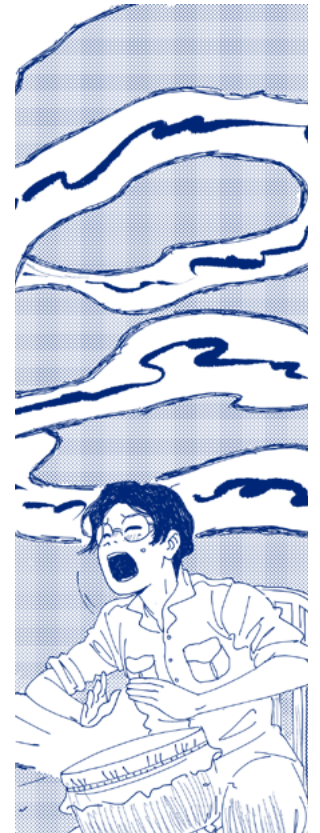
- 50–100 word bios of each creator
- Description of the target readers
- One-page proposal of topic
- One-page explanation of interest in topic, relevant qualifications (including lived experience), and research done or planned
- Rough sketches of art (Of proposed work)
- Sample comics pages (From prior work)

PLEASE DO NOT SEND US:

- Hard copies of your submission
- Your script without art samples
- Your illustration portfolio without a draft script
- Your full script or finished comic art until we have requested for it



www.differenceengine.sg/contact-us/submissions



Art from "Folk" by Borg Sinaban, from *SOUND: A Comics Anthology*

Please email your submission as a single PDF file (maximum 10MB) to submissions@differenceengine.sg.

CHILDREN



**The Makers Club:
Game On!
(Book #1)**



**The Makers Club:
Starting Up!
(Book #2)**



**Amazing Ash &
Superhero Ah Ma
(Book #1)**



**Amazing Ash &
Superhero Ah Ma:
Coming of Age
(Book #2)**



**Amazing Ash &
Superhero Ah Ma:
End of an Era
(Book #3)**



**Marvellous
Mammals:
A Wild A to Z of
Southeast Asia**



**Magical Sweet Gula
(Book #1)**

DIFFERENCE ENGINE PUBLISHING

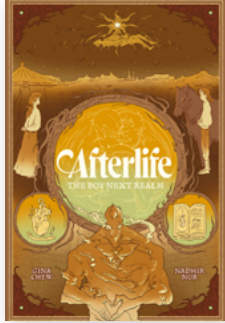
Difference Engine is interested in stories that reflect the diversity of Asian culture and lived experiences through its fiction publications.

Through non-fiction, we are keen to explore progressive takes on social issues and topics that are relevant and relatable to readers today.

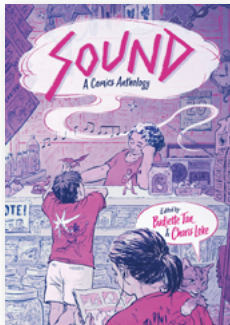
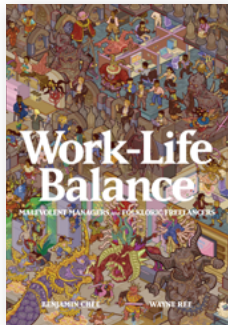
YOUNG ADULT



Two Tails

Afterlife: The Boy
Next Realm

ADULT

SOUND:
A Comics
AnthologyWork-Life Balance:
Malevolent Managers
and Folkloric Freelancers**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-14-3604-8

Ebook 978-981-14-3605-5

Size: 154 x 230 mm

Extent: 120pp

RRP: \$16.90 SGD w/o GST

\$11.50 USD

Category: Children's Fiction**Theme:** Friendship, STEAM
Education**Release:** Jun 2020**Rights:** Worldwide excluding
English Language RightsPREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:The Makers Club:
Game On!

(Book #1)

WRITER: Reimena Yee | **ILLUSTRATOR:** Tintin Pantoja

ABOUT THE BOOK

Timid artist Nadia is in awe of her new teammate. Priya's a gamer, she's smart, and she knows how to code — so this environmental video game they're building should definitely win the top prize at the Pangolin Secondary School Science Fair, right? But Nadia and Priya soon discover that there's a lot more to making a game than coding and sprites. Will the girls be able to overcome their differences or will it be game over for them far too soon?



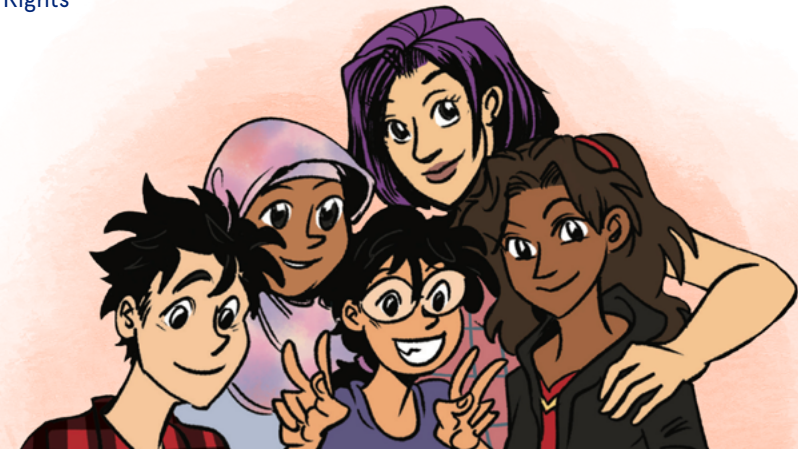
A story about overcoming challenges through mentorship and peer-learning.



Set in Southeast Asia by Southeast Asian creators depicting a diverse cast.



Inspires kids to explore STEAM topics and maker culture. Bonus content: interviews with programmers and artists in the game industry.



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-14-9866-4

Ebook 978-981-14-9867-1

Size: 154 x 230 mm**Extent:** 120pp**RRP:** \$16.90 SGD w/o GST
\$11.50 USD**Category:** Children's Fiction**Theme:** Friendship, STEAM
Education**Release:** Jun 2021**Rights:** Worldwide excluding
English Language Rights

The Makers Club: Starting Up!

(Book #2)

CO-WRITER: Reimena Yee**CO-WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR:** Tintin Pantoja

ABOUT THE BOOK

Childhood friends Aqilah and Yong Qiang have lost touch over the years. When they are unexpectedly reunited in Pangolin Secondary School, they discover that things are very different and life seems a lot more uncertain than it once was. Will they have the courage to start up a brand new school club and convince everyone, including themselves, that they're ready for independence?



A story about growing pains and coping with creative burnout.



Set in Southeast Asia by Southeast Asian creators depicting a diverse cast and gorgeous environment.



Invites kids to explore entrepreneurship, design thinking, and adaptive wear. Bonus content: interviews with female entrepreneurs.

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



ABOUT THE WRITER

Reimena Yee is an illustrator, writer, and designer from Kuala Lumpur. She is the author-illustrator of the Eisner and McDuffie-nominated *The Carpet Merchant of Konstantiniyya*, *Seance Tea Party*, and *Alexander, the Servant & the Water of Life*. Elsewhere, she is the co-founder of UNNAMED, a comics collective that aims to build community and resources for creators in Southeast Asia. She can be found at www.reimenayee.com.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Tintin Pantoja is a Philippine-born artist who graduated with a BFA in Cartooning and Illustration from the School of Visual Arts in New York. Among her works are adaptations of *Hamlet*, *Pride and Prejudice*, the educational middle-grade *Manga Math* series, and *Unplugged and Unpopular* together with writer Mat Heagerty. See more of her work at www.tintinpantoja.com.



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-14-5044-0
Ebook 978-981-14-6936-7

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 208pp

RRP: \$17.90 SGD w/o GST
\$12.50 USD

Category: Children's Fiction

Theme: Family, Superhero

Release: Oct 2020

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma

(Book #1)

WRITER: Melanie Lee | **ILLUSTRATOR:** Arif Rafhan
COLOURIST: Jocelyn Wijaya

ABOUT THE BOOK

Eleven-year-old Ash doesn't have much to look forward to: maths tests, a naggy Mum, and an Ah Ma who doesn't know much about her. That is, until she discovers something that will change her life — Ah Ma is a superhero! The best part is, Ash discovers that she has superpowers too! Growing up and growing old is never easy — and all the more perplexing when secrets and superpowers are added to the mix.



Heartwarming story about the special relationship between a girl and her grandmother.



Full-colour graphic novel with a fun and humorous art style to appeal to the young and young at heart.



Gently introduces young readers to ageing and dementia in a compelling superhero story.

**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-18-4001-2
Ebook 978-981-18-4002-9

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 216pp

RRP: \$17.90 SGD w/o GST
\$12.50 USD

Category: Children's Fiction

Theme: Family, Superhero

Release: May 2022

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma: Coming of Age

(Book #2)

WRITER: Melanie Lee | **ILLUSTRATOR:** Arif Rafhan
COLOURIST: Jocelyn Wijaya

ABOUT THE BOOK

The adventures of Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma continue! As Team ASH grows in number, Ash juggles being a responsible superhero, a supportive grandchild, and a kind friend. Meanwhile, is Ah Ma's dementia getting worse? How will the team cope with a new nemesis and the strange developments happening in town?



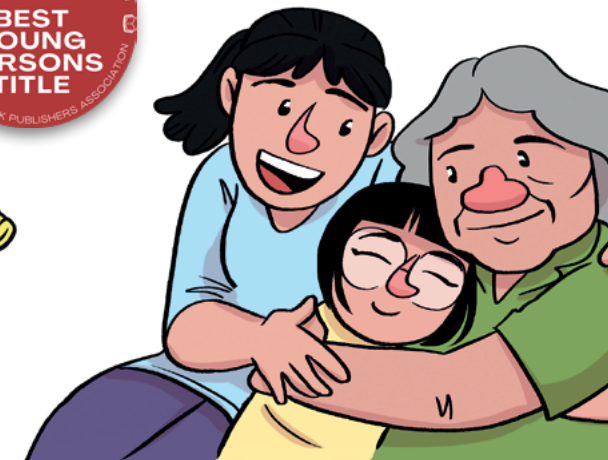
Filled with moments of bravery, friendship, and intergenerational family support.



Full-colour graphic novel with dynamic action sequences to keep readers enthralled.



Gently showcases some symptoms of advancing dementia and some ways to have fun together safely.





Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma: End of an Era


(Book #3)


WRITER: Melanie Lee | **ILLUSTRATOR:** Arif Rafhan
COLOURISTS: Arif Rafhan, Jocelyn Wijaya, Yong Wen Yeu


ABOUT THE BOOK

For 12-year-old Ash, change seems an inevitable, and sometimes unpleasant, constant. Her superpowers come and go, rumours are spreading about Team ASH's missions, and Ah Ma's worsening dementia affects her memory and behaviour. Thankfully, the Good Ol' Days daycare centre in their neighbourhood offers seniors a safe environment and fun activities to keep them engaged on weekdays.

But when its future is suddenly threatened by a mysterious, rich couple with plans to turn it into a luxury spa retreat, Team ASH must quickly intervene to save Good Ol' Days. As they reunite in the final instalment of this heartwarming trilogy for what may be their final – and most high-stakes – mission yet, they learn that change may not be easy, but that care and community can make the journey a little less lonely.

 A heartfelt story that captures the emotional highs and lows of growing tweens, ageing superheroes, and new life stages.

 A well-rounded portrayal of relationships between grandparents and grandchildren that invites conversations on active ageing, and the impact of dementia on both patients and their family members.

 A fun Southeast Asian take on superheroes with region-specific references and colourful illustrations that capture the energy and action of superhero hijinks.

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



ABOUT THE WRITER



Melanie Lee is the author of the award-winning comic series *Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma*, the picture book series *The Adventures of Squirky the Alien*, and the illustrated travel guide series *Out & About in Singapore*. She has also published *Imaginary Friends: 26 Whimsical Fables for Getting on in a Crazy World*, a collection of illustrated short stories, together with Arif Rafhan. Besides writing books, Melanie is Associate Faculty at the Singapore University of Social Sciences, where she develops and teaches media writing courses.

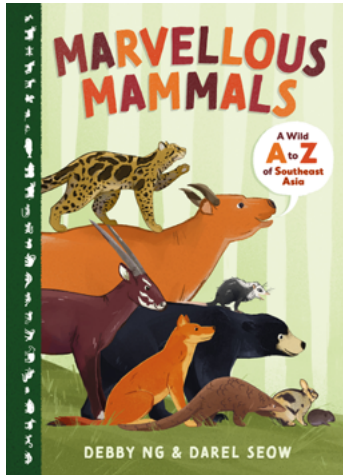
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR



Arif Rafhan is a comics artist based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. His work has appeared in more than 40 publications in Malaysia, Singapore, and the US. He has contributed to Malaysia's longest-running humour magazine *Gila-Gila* and has been working with Dato Lat on the latter's latest graphic novel *Mat Som 2*. He also works with production companies to create concept art, character designs, environment designs, and storyboards.

For more comics and interactive resources on dementia, head to superheroahma.differenceengine.sg.



**Format & ISBN:**

Hardcover 978-981-18-1565-2

Ebook 978-981-18-1566-9

Size: 176 x 250 mm

Extent: 64pp

RRP: \$22.90 SGD w/o GST
\$15.50 USDCategory: Illustrated book,
Non-fiction

Theme: Animals

Release: Sep 2021

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:

Marvellous Mammals: A Wild A to Z of Southeast Asia

WRITER: Debby Ng | ILLUSTRATOR: Darel Seow

ABOUT THE BOOK

The Southeast Asian forests are full of incredible wildlife waiting to be discovered. In the humid nature reserves of Singapore, high up the mountain forests of Papua, and in the tropical waters of the Irrawaddy, a multitude of mammals live their unseen lives.

Wildlife ecologist Debby Ng and illustrator Darel Seow showcase these unique mammals' habitat, behaviour, food choices, and their relationship with humans.



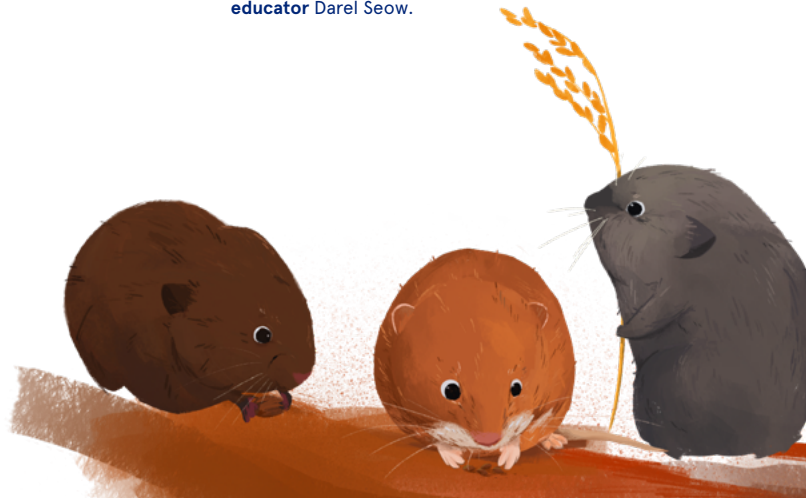
Intriguing facts that will enthrall children and adults alike – perfect for the animal enthusiast in all of us!



Discover the lesser known native mammals of Southeast Asia with this adorably illustrated alphabet book!



Researched and written by wildlife ecologist and conservationist Debby Ng with art by illustrator and educator Darel Seow.



ABOUT THE WRITER

Debby Ng is a wildlife disease ecologist, photojournalist, and National Geographic Explorer. She is also the founder of two volunteer organisations: PulauHantu.sg and HimalayanMuttProject.org. Debby was a Duke University Global Fellow for Conservation Biology and Policy, and studied geography and zoology at the University of Tasmania. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the NUS Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Darel Seow is a visual storyteller who illustrates the tales of the natural world, creating experiences that simultaneously excite and educate. An illustration graduate from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design (UK), he is particularly interested in museums and culture, and has worked with the National Museum of Singapore, the Asian Civilisations Museum (Singapore), and the British Museum (UK). Visit his website at www.darseow.com.



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-18-7736-0

Ebook 978-981-18-7737-7

Size: 148 x 210 mm**Extent:** 196pp**RRP:** \$15.90 SGD w/o GST
\$11.00 USD**Category:** Children's Fiction**Theme:** Fantasy, Friendship**Release:** Sep 2023**Rights:** WorldwidePREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:

Magical Sweet Gula

(Book #1)

CO-WRITERS & CO-ILLUSTRATORS:

Johanes Park and Jessica Leman

ABOUT THE BOOK

Gula Gulali is a magical girl with the power to turn the things around her into cakes and sweets! But she is a Magi living in the non-magical realm of Terra, where her bright pink hair and pointed ears make her stick out like a sore thumb in the regular school she attends.

When another young Magi joins Gula's school, his weird behaviour draws far too much attention to the Magi who are already facing prejudice from Terrans. Now, Gula has to navigate friendships, suspicious schoolmates, and a series of magical mishaps – all while the success of a school drama production is at stake! Will she find acceptance and belonging, or will she have to give up her magic to fit in?



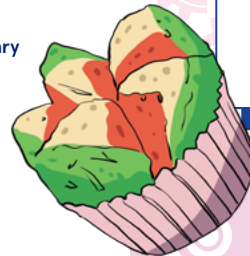
A dessert-themed **magical girl story** that bakes in both the bitter and sweet of **school life and friendships**.



A gentle way to start childhood conversations about **fitting in, encountering discrimination, and embracing one's uniqueness**.



Endearing artwork that **blends the magical and ordinary** into a visual treat for children of all genders.



ABOUT THE CO-WRITERS & CO-ILLUSTRATORS

Johanes Park and **Jessica Leman** are an artist-writer couple based in Jakarta, Indonesia. They met while studying animation at Kyungsoo University in South Korea. Inspired by Johanes' childhood experiences growing up with both Korean and Indonesian identities, the duo first created *Magical Sweet Gula* together in 2015, to share a story of acceptance and friendship with young people who feel "different".

Johanes is currently a university lecturer and Jessica is pursuing digital marketing in creative industries. They remain passionate about pop culture and comics as a medium to communicate meaningful stories with universal appeal, and participate actively in efforts to bring Indonesian creators' works to global audiences.



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-18-6024-9

Ebook 978-981-18-6042-3

Size: 148 x 210 mm**Extent:** 260pp**RRP:** \$18.90 SGD w/o GST
\$13.50 USD**Category:** Young Adult Fiction
13+**Theme:** Fantasy, Animals**Release:** Apr 2023**Rights:** Worldwide

Two Tails

WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR: Kifurai a.k.a. Kiana Fedly

ABOUT THE BOOK

University student Rara detests animals. And she absolutely hates cats. Until one fateful night when a fatal bike accident changes everything...

A second chance at life beckons, but there's a catch: She has to get her body back. The bigger catch? She's now a cat.

Armed with two tails and with a long-lost friend by her side, Rara ventures on a whimsical journey to show us the very human nature of animals, and the immense space that we carry in our hearts for reconciliation.



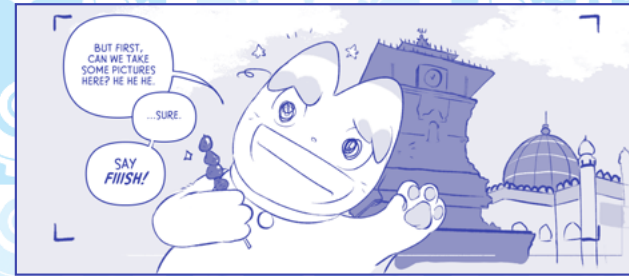
A wholesome tale of friendships and self-discovery that are forged through a journey of redemption.



Adventure-filled chapters with a constellation of expressive characters, heartfelt dialogue, and witty banter.



A comic that balances light-hearted hijinks with serious themes of animal welfare, grief, and traumatic childhoods through the use of playful illustrations that faithfully capture the cultural vibrance of different cities of Indonesia.



ABOUT THE WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR



Kifurai a.k.a. Kiana Fedly is an illustrator and full-time animal lover. She comes from a family in the creative field and went on to study at the Jakarta Institute of Arts (IKJ). Her interest lies in creating cute-looking characters to accompany her narrative art. She has worked with independent artists, companies, and brands for projects such as music video storyboarding, merchandise illustration, company mascots, and digital content.



PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-18-0412-0

Ebook 978-981-18-0413-7

Size: 168 x 257 mm

Extent: 204pp

RRP: \$24.90 SGD w/o GST
\$17.50 USD

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Theme: Fantasy, Romance

Release: May 2023

Rights: Worldwide

**PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:**

Afterlife: The Boy Next Realm

WRITER: Gina Chew | ILLUSTRATOR: Nadhir Nor

ABOUT THE BOOK

Kyra's younger brother is stricken with an ailment that has no cure. The last thing she needs is to find a mysterious boy lurking in the hospital. But where did he go, and why does she feel this inexplicable connection to him?

Spirit Keeper Eric isn't prepared for this. He was just there to do his job and bring a soul into the Afterlife. Little did he expect to run into a too-familiar face from his past in the land of the living...

In this great expanse where what's lost is found, fate, memories, and love intertwine as Kyra and Eric embark on a daring rescue mission to save a little boy from Death's clutches. *Afterlife: The Boy Next Realm* is an epic Southeast Asian-inspired young adult fantasy graphic novel about one girl's sacrifice as she fights to save what she loves.



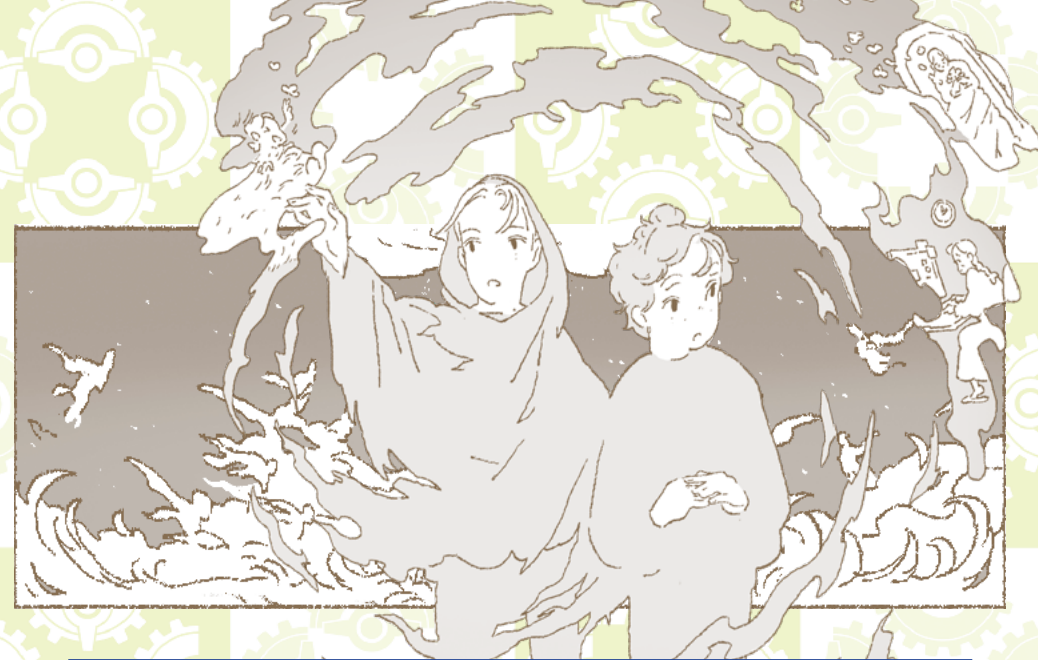
Features a confident female protagonist who bravely dives into unfamiliar scenarios and uses her heart and wits to save those who matter most to her.



A transient realm is brought to life with **detailed, ethereal illustrations** that are inspired by Southeast Asian myths and architecture.

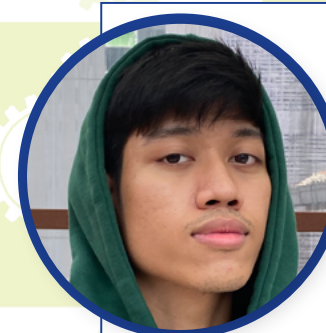


Rich **worldbuilding** inspired by Southeast Asian and Western beliefs of death and reincarnation.



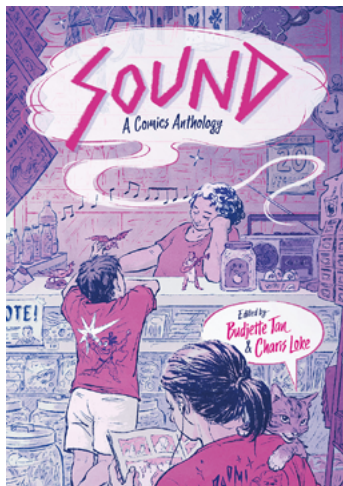
ABOUT THE WRITER

Gina Chew is a storyteller based in Singapore. Her day job involves writing for the screen, and *Afterlife* marks her first foray into the world of graphic novels. Her interests include exploring the ways we are tied to memory and tradition, needlessly complicated board games, and sleeping in.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Nadhir Nor is an illustrator from Selangor, Malaysia who's into all things otherworldly. Mythology, lost traditions, and their relationship with modern society are some of the subjects he holds dear too.

**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-14-5160-7

Ebook 978-981-14-6937-4

Size: 168 x 257 mm**Extent:** 288pp**RRP:** \$27.90 w/o GST
\$19.50 USD**Category:** Adult Fiction**Theme:** Anthology**Release:** Nov 2020**Rights:** Distribution only
(Worldwide)

SOUND: A Comics Anthology

EDITORS: Budjette Tan & Charis Loke

ABOUT THE BOOK

Traffic. A crunchy snack. An argument. What does sound look like to you? Writers and illustrators from all around Southeast Asia were challenged to push the boundaries of depicting the unseen through the medium of visuals and words, while telling stories important to them.

Veteran guest editors Budjette Tan and Charis Loke have put together an intriguing list of stories that showcase the creativity of creators across Southeast Asia — both familiar and new names.

STORIES & CREATIVE TEAMS

- **Folk** by Paolo Chikiamco & Borg Sinaban
- **The Whispers of the Earth** by Amahl S. Azwar & Nadiyah Rizki
- **Hokkien for Beginners** by Nicolette Lee
- **Bonus Points** by Benjamin Chee
- **Voices and Votes** by Rafael Romeo Magat & Ruth Chris De Vera
- **ON : OFF** by Xie Shi Min, Xiao Yan, & Richard Phua
- **Out of Sight** by Wong Jingwei & Soefara Jafney
- **The Cat Who Barks** by Bryan Arfiandy
- **Blabber** by Bonni Rambatan
- **Softly, Sayang** by Sharon Bong & Leong Yi Zhen
- **Road Trip Radio** by Cathlyn Vania
- **Signals** by Farid Nad
- **A Call** by Nadhir Nor



Compelling narratives that span from personal stories to fantasy, with universal themes.



A wide range of evocative art styles and genres, set against a living backdrop of Southeast Asia.



Diverse stories by Southeast Asian writers and illustrators — a great read for anyone interested in the region.



ABOUT THE EDITORS



Budjette Tan grew up in a haunted house and was told to sleep early because there were aswang flying outside his bedroom window. These stories inspired him to write the comic book *TRESE*, co-created with artist Kajo Baldesimo, which has been adapted into a Netflix anime series. Visit his website here: www.budjettetan.blogspot.com.



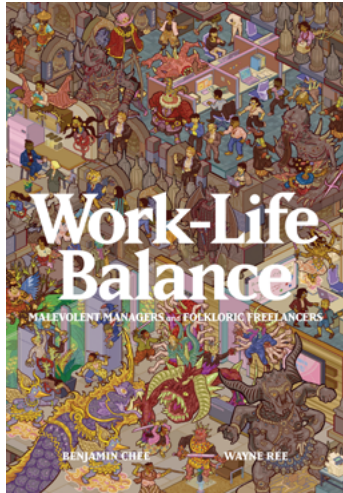
Charis Loke is an illustrator and educator based in Penang, Malaysia. Her work draws upon literature and visual culture, exploring both real and fictional worlds. She was the Comics & Illustrations Editor at *New Naratif* and a committee member of Arts-ED, where she works on community-based arts and culture education for youth. Visit her website here: www.charisloke.com.

Gain deeper insight at the thought processes behind the stories and create your own vision of sound at soundcomics.differenceengine.sg.



PREVIEW THE PAGES HERE:



**Format & ISBN:**

Paperback 978-981-18-4559-8

Ebook 978-981-18-4560-4

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 192pp

RRP: \$26.90 SGD w/o GST
\$20.00 USD

Category: Adult Fiction

Theme: Supernatural, Work

Release: Oct 2022

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:

Work-Life Balance: Malevolent Managers and Folkloric Freelancers

CREATORS: Benjamin Chee & Wayne Rée

ABOUT THE BOOK

When a menacing multinational arrives on our shores, familiar creatures like pontianaks, manananggals, raksasis, and ba jiao guis are forced out of their jobs. Some give in and sign up for mundane corporate life – but others would rather fight than join the broken-spirited hordes of the (desk)bound.

Benjamin Chee's comics and Wayne Rée's prose intertwine in this collection to bring you familiar Asian mythology in an even more familiar setting: the realm of dead-end work, glass ceilings, and truly hellish bosses.



A long-awaited reflection on how precarious work-life balance can be when faced with soul-draining work culture and bosses from literal hell.



Intricate comic artwork and imaginative worldbuilding that seamlessly weaves traditional myths in a modern-day work setting.



A masterful conversation between prose and comics that drives a story of an evolving Southeast Asia across generations.



Optioned for an animated comedy series by an award-winning studio.



ABOUT THE CREATORS

Benjamin Chee created the comics and illustrations for *Work-Life Balance*. He enjoys mashing up genres and themes, so after making several books with titles like *Charsiew Space* and *Lychee Queen*, he ended up asking Wayne Rée for permission to adapt the wild west short story *Mr Memphis* into a wuxia comic... leading to them making this book together. His comics are collected in *Liquid City Volume 3*, *Asian Monsters*, and *SOUND: A Comics Anthology*. He is terrified of horror movies and hasn't yet fully comprehended why he is part of this book with its abundance of hantu. Find him online at www.charsiewspace.com.



Wayne Rée wrote the prose for *Work-Life Balance*. He's the co-creator of the comic *Worlds Apart: A Conversation About Mental Health* (with Nurjannah Suhaimi), and the fan favourite audio series *Ghost Maps* (with Kyle Ong). His short stories have appeared in *LONTAR: The Journal of Southeast Asian Speculative Fiction*, *Infinite Worlds Magazine*, *The Epigram Books Collection of Best New Singaporean Short Stories*, and *Fish Eats Lion Redux*. He first collaborated with Benjamin Chee on *Mr Memphis*. His least favourite job ever was when he worked as a social media manager. His favourite job ever was when he worked as a night-shift security guard. Find him online at www.waynereewrites.com.



Work-Life Balance presents **Internal Damnation: Pick Your Hell**

An Interactive
Text-Based Web Game

Writer: Wayne Rée

Illustrator: Benjamin Chee

Producer: Difference Engine

Game Developers: Lionfish Studios

Game Audio: Imba Interactive

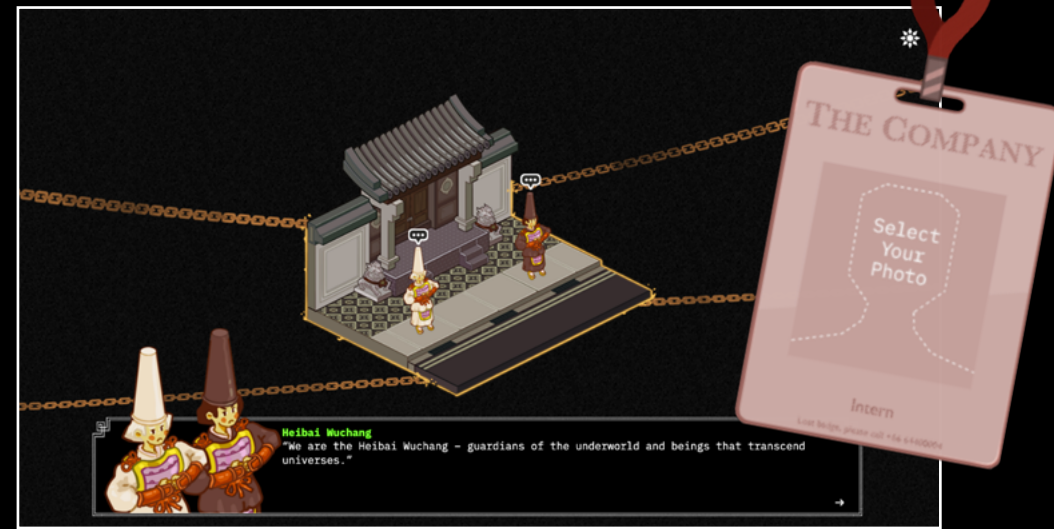
Release: Oct 2022

ABOUT THE GAME

Internal Damnation is a self-contained text-based game set in the *Work-Life Balance* universe. It is a fun and experimental digital extension of the book project, featuring stunning isometric diorama illustrations, ambient music, and fight scenes of epic proportions that bring this standalone story to life.

The game focuses on an intern's time at The Company, a mysteriously shifty multinational corporation, at a time when the undercurrents of hostility are beginning to show their signs. Navigate your way through mundane tasks and office politics and see if you manage to survive... or face tragic consequences!

Play the game at wlbgame.differenceengine.sg (desktop-only).



DE SHORTS IMPRINT

DE Shorts is a series of self-contained stories on a wide range of social issues. This imprint was created in the midst of difficult conversations, contrasting encounters, and shared conundrums. With DE Shorts, Difference Engine aims to publish stories of lived and shared experiences – tales that reflect our commonalities and differences.

While we recognise that these short comics present individual facets of much broader, complex topics – far too vast to encompass in a single issue – we hope that they will be a starting point for openness and candid discussion, perhaps even to serve as catalysts for the changes we hope to see in the world. We learnt so much from working on these stories, and we want to dig deeper, do more, and share them with you.

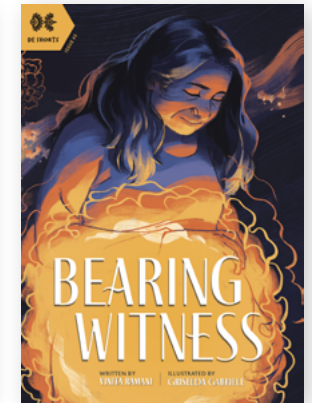
DE SHORTS



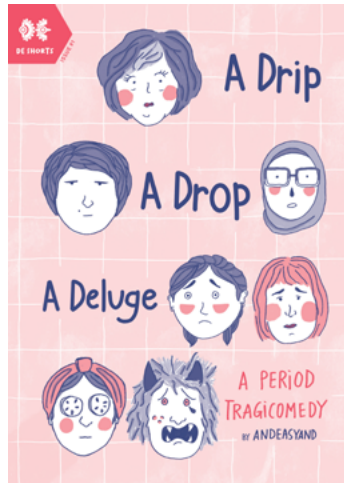
A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge:
A Period Tragicomedy



Worlds Apart:
A Conversation About
Mental Health



Bearing Witness



ISBN: 978-981-18-2259-9

Format: Paperback

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 40pp

RRP: \$15.00 SGD w/o GST
\$10.00 USD

Category: Adult Fiction

Theme: Social Issues &
Menstruation

Release: Nov 2021

Rights: Worldwide

A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy

WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR: Andeasand

ABOUT THE BOOK

What do newspapers, bread, cosmic changes, and a uterus lining have in common? *A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy* takes us on a journey through the eyes (and wombs) of six different women and how they – and the people around them – experience their monthly cycles.

Menstruation is an intimately personal yet shared experience that can sometimes be hard to talk about candidly, but it's time to put menstruating bodies at the heart of the conversation.



A collection of intimate, funny, and sometimes embarrassing stories inspired by the lived experiences of Southeast Asian women.



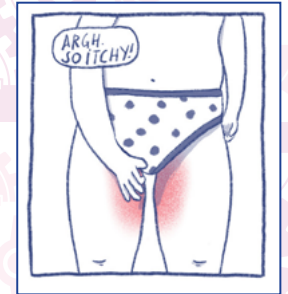
Read about different menstrual journeys, some relatable, many rarely talked about, and be inspired to spark conversations about periods.



Shortlisted for Best Book Cover Design at the Singapore Book Awards 2022.

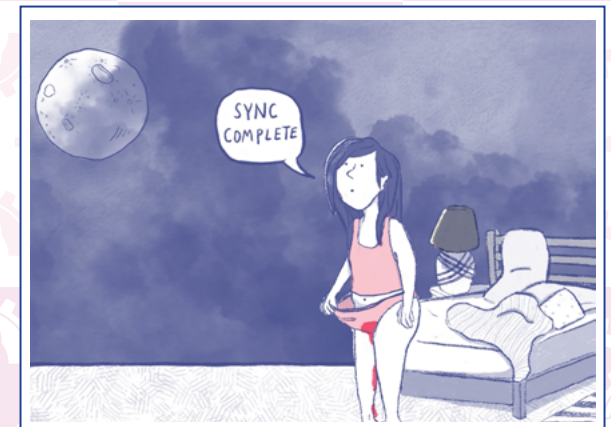


PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



ABOUT THE WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR

Andeasand is a Nurulhuda Izyan who wrote and illustrated *A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy*. She peddles puns and observations surrounding mental health, the period cycle, and everything in between through illustrations and long captions. When she isn't, she is making a crafty mess.





Worlds Apart: A Conversation About Mental Health

WRITER: Wayne Rée | ILLUSTRATOR: Nurjannah Suhaimi

ABOUT THE BOOK

It's been a while since you caught up with Charissa. You finally – finally! – find the time to meet your friend for coffee, but after the usual pleasantries, she opens up to you. She's been diagnosed with depression. A moment like this can feel like a fork in the road. Will it lead to an emotionally rewarding conversation or... cause a lot of confusion and awkwardness?

Many of us still largely choose not to talk about mental health – and that often breeds misconceptions and social stigma. Join Charissa as she guides you through these unfamiliar territories and terrains that can be difficult to navigate. Let the conversation begin.



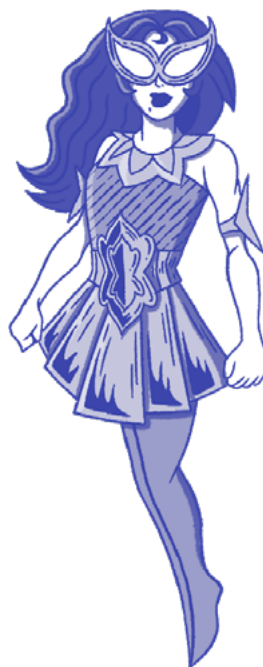
Useful resources on how to get help and support for mental health conditions in Singapore.



Retro-style art that takes cues from popular culture and comic book genres of sci-fi, superheroes, and fantasy, and spins them with a Southeast Asian context.



A conversation starter for those who are keen to understand and reach out to people living with mental health conditions.



ISBN: 978-981-18-4000-5

Format: Paperback

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 40pp

RRP: \$15.00 SGD w/o GST
\$10.00 USD

Category: Adult Fiction

Theme: Social Issues & Mental Health

Release: Apr 2022

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



ABOUT THE WRITER

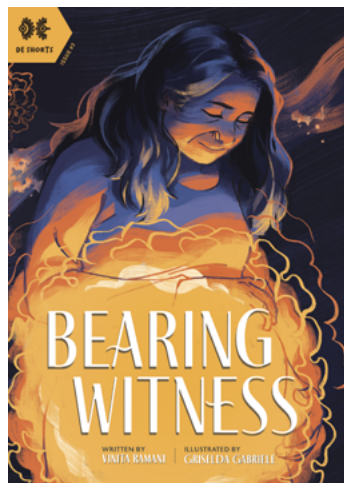


Wayne Rée is the co-creator of the prose/comics mash-up *Work-Life Balance*, and the short comic about mental health, *Worlds Apart: A Conversation About Mental Health*. His work's been included in several fiction publications, most notably *Infinite Worlds Magazine* and *LONTAR: The Journal of Southeast Asian Speculative Fiction*. He is also the co-creator of the narrative podcast *Ghost Maps*.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR



Nurjannah Suhaimi is a designer based in Singapore. She is a visual communications graduate from Nanyang Technological University's School of Art, Design and Media. As a self-motivated and proactive person, she takes pride in being able to adapt in stressful situations, and is always seeking new experiences to keep her on her toes!



ISBN: 978-981-18-5210-7

Format: Paperback

Size: 148 x 210 mm

Extent: 52pp

RRP: \$17.00 SGD w/o GST
\$12.00 USD

Category: Adult Non-Fiction

Theme: Pregnancy, Family,
Autobiography

Release: Nov 2022

Rights: Worldwide

PREVIEW THE
PAGES HERE:



Bearing Witness

WRITER: Vinita Ramani | ILLUSTRATOR: Griselda Gabriele

ABOUT THE BOOK

Suffering from postpartum depression after the birth of her first child, a 42-year-old musters up the courage to try for another baby. Struggling through two trimesters of nausea, exhaustion, and recurrent, intense dreams, she hopes to hit the 20-week milestone and see the light at the end of the tunnel, only to discover during a routine ultrasound scan that her baby has passed away in the womb.

And so begins a surreal life on the other side of loss, where grief and ecstasy are often bedfellows, tears come from nowhere, other people's babies become the objects of intense affection, and where the baby that never came to be shows up in stars, stones, seeds, and her toddler's imagination.



A moving memoir of a woman's experience with pregnancy loss and her journey towards acceptance.



Emotive art that captures the nuances of grief and family relationships.



A rare portrait of parenthood in a Southeast Asian context that normalises pregnancy complications and loss. A sensitive discussion of a difficult topic through the use of comics.



ABOUT THE WRITER

Vinita Ramani is a writer and editor. She has previously worked as a journalist for various local and regional publications, and as a publicist for film festivals both in Singapore and abroad.



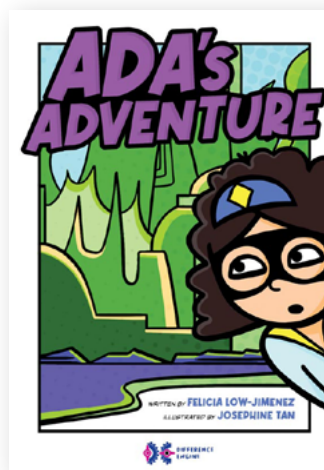
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Griselda Gabriele is a Singapore-based Indonesian artist with experience in editorial illustration and visual development for games and animation. She's passionate about storytelling and interested in exploring the diverse history, (pop) culture, and faiths of Indonesia and Southeast Asia.

CHARACTER LICENSING

The character of Ada was inspired by the real-life adventures of Ada Lovelace, who with her creativity and curiosity, continues to inspire innovators and change makers the world over!

Difference Engine is keen to collaborate with partners who are interested in expanding *Ada's Adventures* into a full-fledged comic series. We are open for project proposals spanning fiction, non-fiction, educational content, print, interactive projects, AR/VR/MR – the possibilities are endless.



Format & ISBN:

Paperback 978-981-11-8373-7
Webcomic

Rights: Worldwide

READ THE
WEBCOMIC
HERE!



Ada's Adventure

WRITER: Felicia Low-Jimenez

ILLUSTRATOR: Josephine Tan

COLOURIST: Jocelyn Wijaya

ABOUT THE PROOF-OF-CONCEPT STORY

Ada is walking home from school one day, when "POW!", she is stopped in her tracks, literally. What is going on? Why does the world beyond look so different... and yet so intriguing?

In this short comic, Ada experiences the comics medium and explains its elements – such as panels, gutters, and captions – to young readers in a fun, easy-to-grasp manner.



ABOUT THE WRITER



Felicia Low-Jimenez believes that stories have the power to change the world. She's also one half of the writing team behind the best-selling Sherlock Sam series of children's books. Find her at www.sherlocksam.wordpress.com.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR



Josephine Tan is an illustrator who is passionate about how arts and technology can come together to make the world a more delightful place. Visit her website at www.josephinetwh.com.

MERCHANDISE

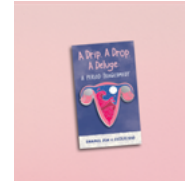
We love the art and character designs in our comics and are keen for them to live beyond the page. Our line of original merchandise and non-book items are specially designed to compliment and enhance the reading experience.

From stickers to washi tapes to themed bundles, we are constantly thinking of ways to add fun and meaning to the stories we publish. We are open to working with partners to explore opportunities and expand on our range of merchandise.

MERCHANDISE

A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy

SKU: ME0502-DDD02



Description:

An enamel pin in the shape of a uterus that embraces the ebbs and flows of periods.

Price: SGD\$12.00 | USD\$9.00

Dimension: 54mm x 90mm

Weight: 11g

SKU: ME0502-DDD03



Description:

A relatable sticker sheet that highlights both pleasures and woes of menstruating.

Price: SGD\$3.00 | USD\$2.00

Dimension: 148mm x 210mm

Weight: 8g

Work-Life Balance: Malevolent Managers and Folkloric Freelancers

SKU: BU0502-WLB02



Description:

A ceramic mug that warns people of your monster tendencies without coffee or tea in your system.

Price: SGD\$15.00 | USD\$11.00

Dimension: 820mm x 950mm

Weight: 110z

SKU: BU0502-WLB03



Description:

A 4-piece bookmark set so you won't lose your temper when you lose your page.

Price: SGD\$8.50 | USD\$6.00

Dimension: 100mm x 145mm

Weight: 13g

SKU: BU0502-WLB04



Description:

A washi tape with gold foil – the perfect accompaniment to your to-do lists and journals!

Price: SGD\$10.00 | USD\$8.50

Dimension: 20mm x 10m

Weight: 16g

Two Tails

SKU: BU0402-TT02



Description:

A perforated washi tape filled with Rara's unique expressions – perfect for journal hobbyists and cat-lovers!

Price: SGD\$8.50 | USD\$10.00

Dimension: 25mm x 5m

Weight: 14g

SKU: BU0402-TT03



Description:

A meme-able sticker sheet featuring eight different moods of Rara!

Price: SGD\$4.00 | USD\$3.00

Dimension: 148mm x 210mm

Weight: 2.5g

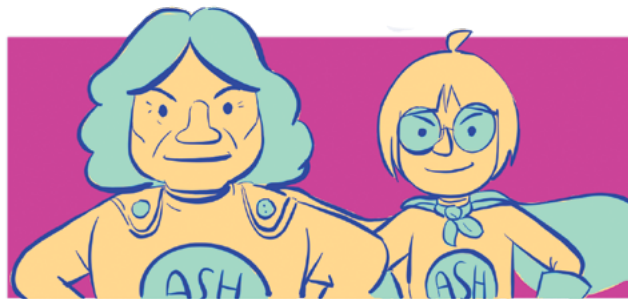


SHOP WITH US!

Head to our e-commerce store on our website to see our books and preview pages!

While you're at it, check out our merchandise selection for unique and memorable pieces specially designed by our creators. Great as gifts or to accessorise your books!

Teaching resources and free digital activities are also available for each title.



ABOUT OUR PARENT COMPANY

Potato Productions

Potato Productions started in 2005 as a media and publishing house. Since then, we've evolved into a portfolio of companies in industries ranging from digital content to education. We support innovative enterprises seeking to make a social impact, and create new ones too. We take an industry-agnostic approach, focusing on the ways we can use technology and creativity for good.



We publish stories from Southeast Asia!



Brunei
Cambodia
Indonesia
Laos
Malaysia
Myanmar

Philippines
Singapore
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Vietnam

