



# For Review

When it comes to raising children, parents can expect to experience their fair share of headaches, heartaches and worries. In this collection of comic strips, comic artist Dan Kuah and co-author Smith Leong highlight the ups and downs of raising Dan's young son, Ben Ben, who often manages to outwit his father with his mischievous antics. This light-hearted take on the parenting journey offers hefty doses of hilarious and heartfelt moments that will help parents to navigate the nuances of everyday family life.

*"I've known Dan since 1994. His passion for creating comics continues to burn strongly. This will make a truly perfect gift for parents and non-parents alike."*

James Teo  
Award-winning illustrator of *Ah Boys to Men*,  
*Long Long Time Ago* and *The Lion Men*

*"Ben Ben Diaries is heart-warming and sincere. This rare made-in-Singapore comic book is truly entertaining!"*

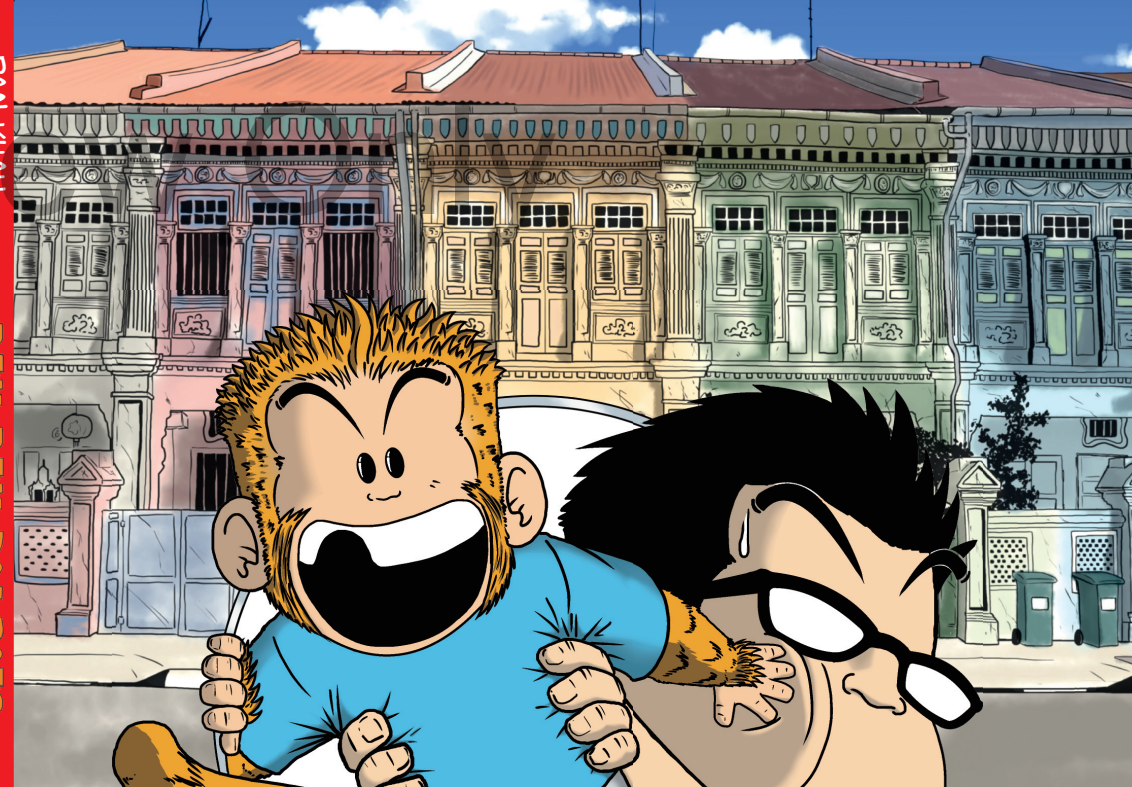
Wee Tian Beng  
Creator of *Return of the Condor Heroes*,  
*The Adventures of Wisely* and *The Celestial Zone*

*"A sweet comic book filled with short stories to bond with your kids. It will help remind you of the love you have for each other. A must-read for parents!"*

Evangeline Neo  
Creator of *Eva*, *Kopi & Matcha* and *Eva Goes Solo*

DAN KUAH  
SMITH LEONG

BEN BEN DIARIES  
WELCOME TO PARENTHOOD



DAN KUAH  
SMITH LEONG

# BEN BEN DIARIES

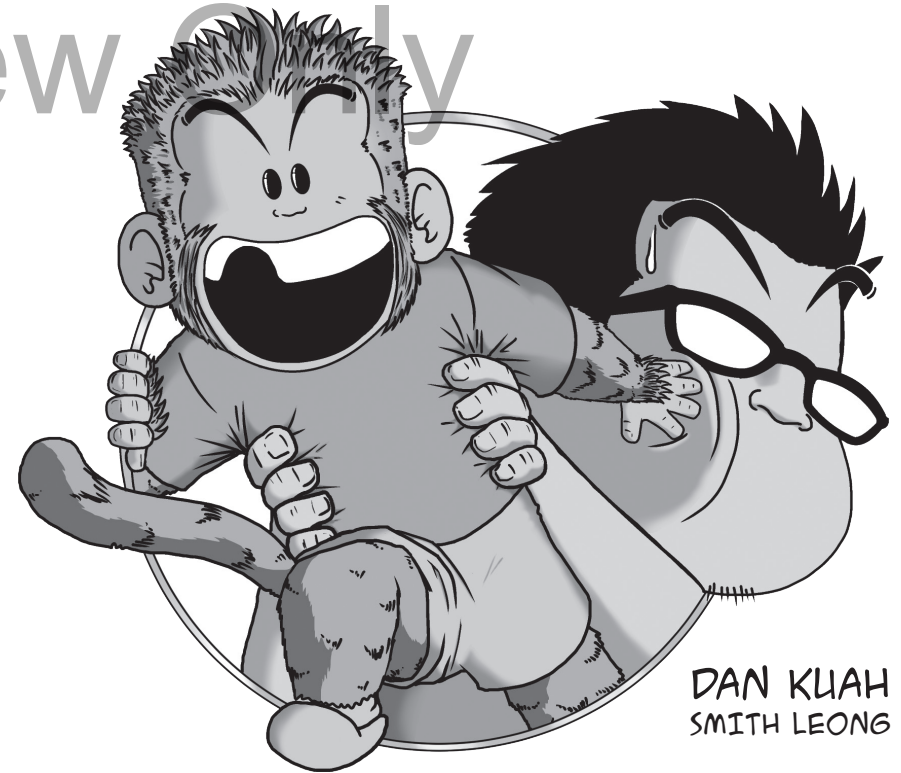
WELCOME TO PARENTHOOD

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DAN KUAH  
SMITH LEONG

# BENBEN DiARIES

WELCOME TO PARENTHOOD

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Published by Marshall Cavendish Editions  
An imprint of Marshall Cavendish International  
1 New Industrial Road, Singapore 536196



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Marshall Cavendish International (Thailand) Co Ltd, 253 Asoke, 12th Flr, Sukhumvit 21 Road,  
Klongtoey Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110, Thailand • Marshall Cavendish (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd,  
Times Subang, Lot 46, Subang Hi-Tech Industrial Park, Batu Tiga,  
40000 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

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National Library Board, Singapore Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Name(s): Kuah, Dan. | Leong, Smith, author.

Title: Ben Ben diaries: welcome to parenthood / Dan Kuah, Smith Leong.

Other title(s): Welcome to parenthood

Description: Singapore : Marshall Cavendish Editions, [2017]

Identifier(s): OCN 967505806 | ISBN 978-981-47-7166-5 (paperback)

Subject(s): LCSH: Parenting--Comic books, strips, etc. | Fatherhood--Comic books,  
strips, etc. | Children--Comic books, strips, etc.

Classification: DDC 741.5695957--dc23

Printed in Singapore by Markono Print Media Pte Ltd

TO MY DEAR SON, BENJAMIN,  
THANK YOU FOR COMING INTO MY LIFE AND  
MAKING IT BEAUTIFUL.  
I LOVE YOU.

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## Foreword

How time flies.

I remember vividly the day I held little Benjamin in the hospital. It was the most tiring day of my life. But at the same time, it was also the happiest.

Children are a bundle of joy. They bring out a different side in us parents that we never knew. They give us a sense of responsibility in our lives. They make us believe that life is about them, not us. They also make us appreciate what OUR parents did for us.

Parents, on the other hand, are super-humans. Parents are able to come home after a long, tiring day of work and still be able to sit beside the bed and sing. Parents are able to endure bad bosses or unreasonable clients at work, only to come home and smile at their children.

As a parent, I am constantly learning. And I always try to remember what my parents did when I was a kid. For this, I thank PaPa and MaMa for their blood, sweat and tears. And I salute all parents in this world.

I remember lying in bed one night after putting my son Ben Ben to bed. I thought to myself what I could, as a parent, give to Ben Ben when he reaches 21?



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A wealthy person I am not. Therefore the options of a car or an inheritance is out. So what else could I give? I began to ponder.

I have been drawing comics since 12 years old and I could not think of a better gift than to archive my adventures with Ben Ben in a comic book. My plan is to present it to him on his 21st birthday.

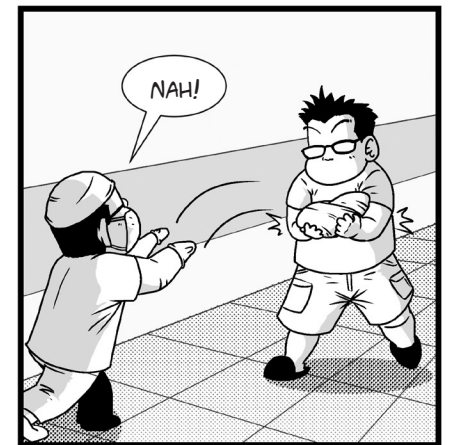
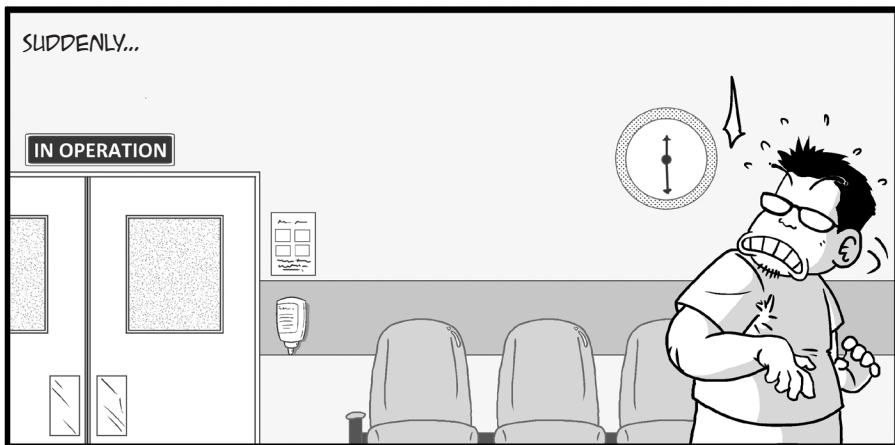
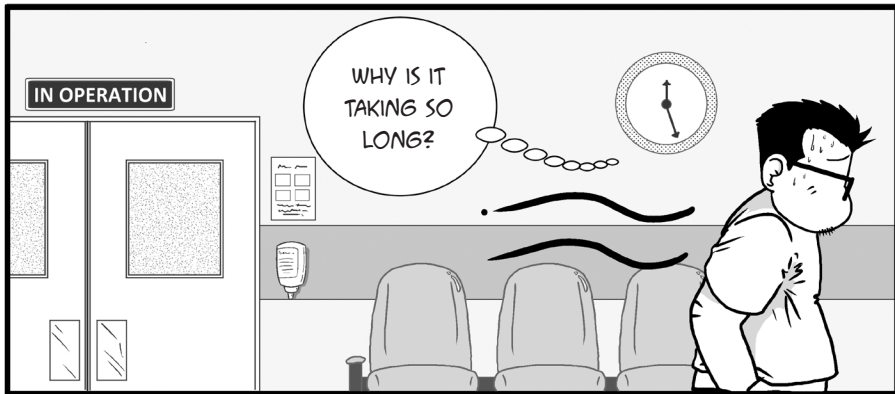
I guess this is my little way of looking towards the future.

**Dan Kuah**

*October 2016*

EVERY STORY HAS A BEGINNING,  
AND OURS BEGINS HERE....







NO WORDS CAN DESCRIBE MY HAPPINESS  
AS I ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF  
BEN BEN TO THE WORLD.

WELCOME TO PARENTHOOD!



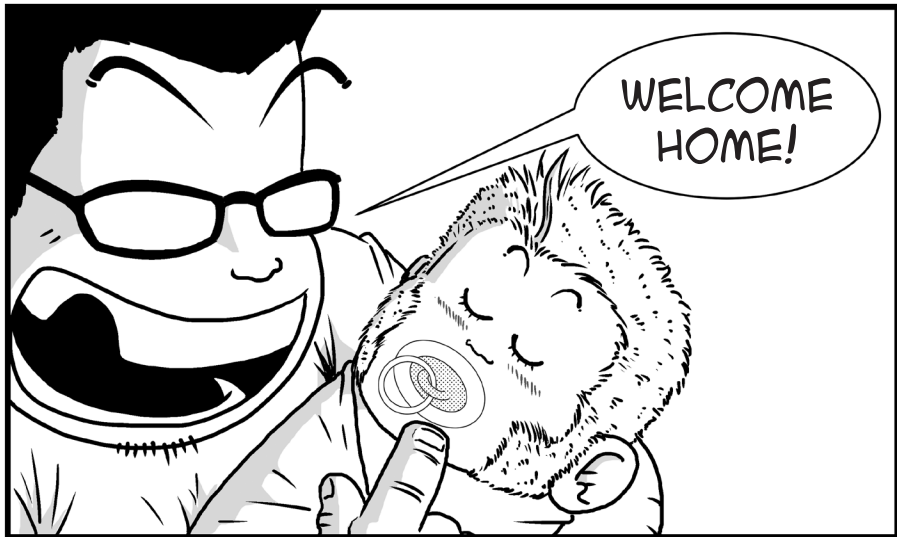
BEN BEN'S FIRST MINUTE IN THIS WORLD

AFTER HIS BATH!

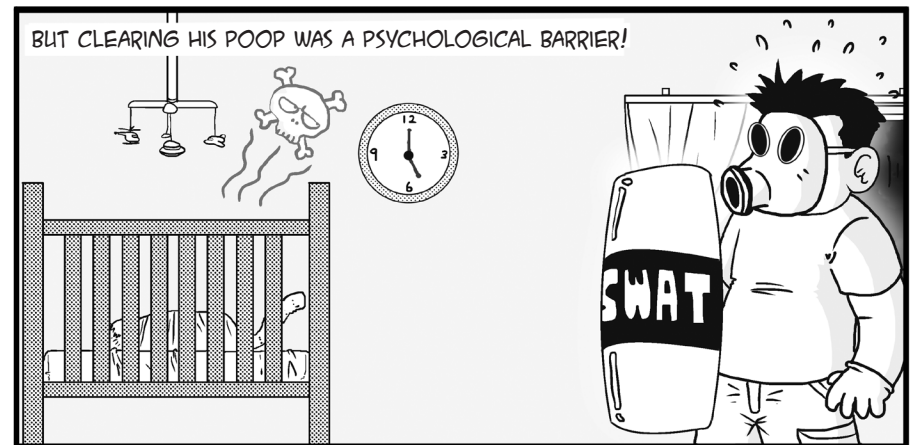
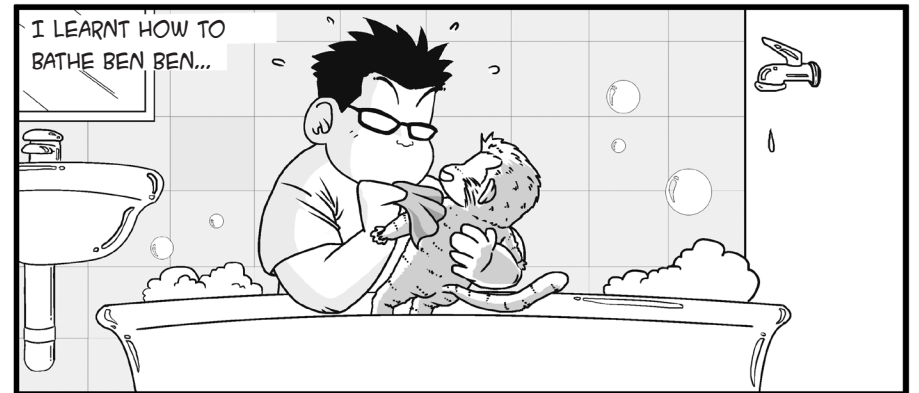
FRIENDS WILL TELL YOU WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AS A PARENT.  
BUT TRUST ME -- NO MATTER HOW MANY BOOKS ONE READS  
OR HOW MANY PARENTING LESSONS ONE ATTENDS,  
NO ONE CAN SAY THAT THEY ARE THOROUGHLY PREPARED  
TO BE A PARENT UNTIL IT ACTUALLY HAPPENS.  
WELL I THOUGHT TOUGH TIMES WERE FINALLY OVER  
WHEN BEN BEN IS BORN.  
HOW WRONG I WAS....



WE USED TO STAY IN TAMPINES. AS WE BROUGHT BEN BEN BACK FROM THE HOSPITAL, I LOOKED AT HIM AND SAID THIS TO HIM.

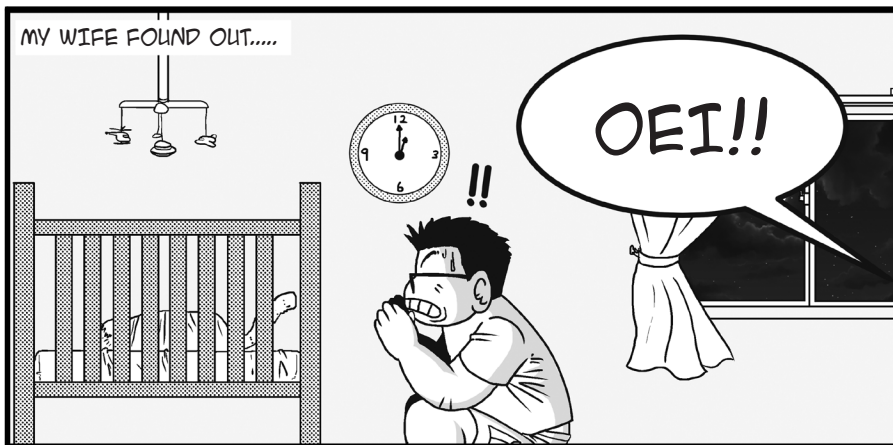
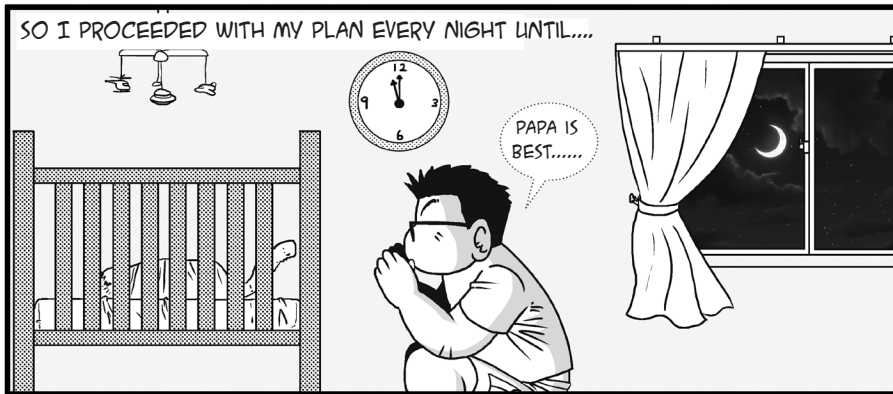
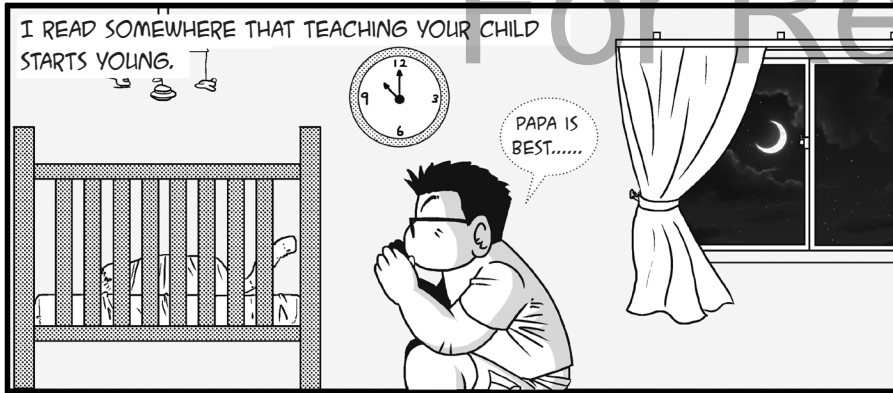


### DADDY'S LIMIT

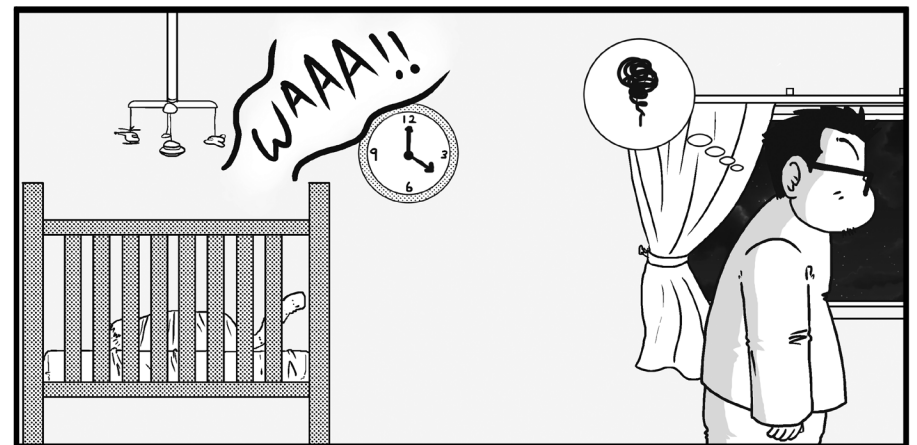
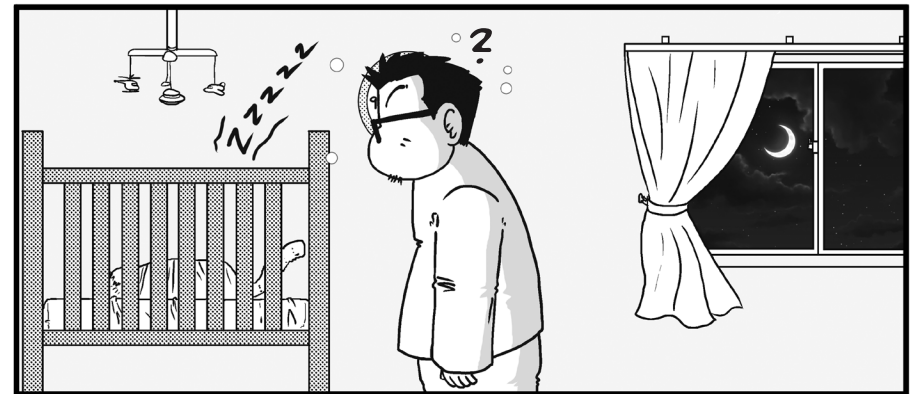
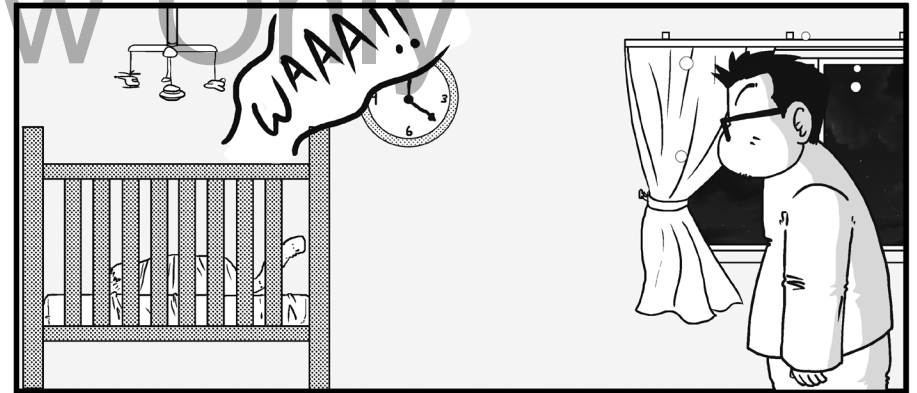




# START EARLY

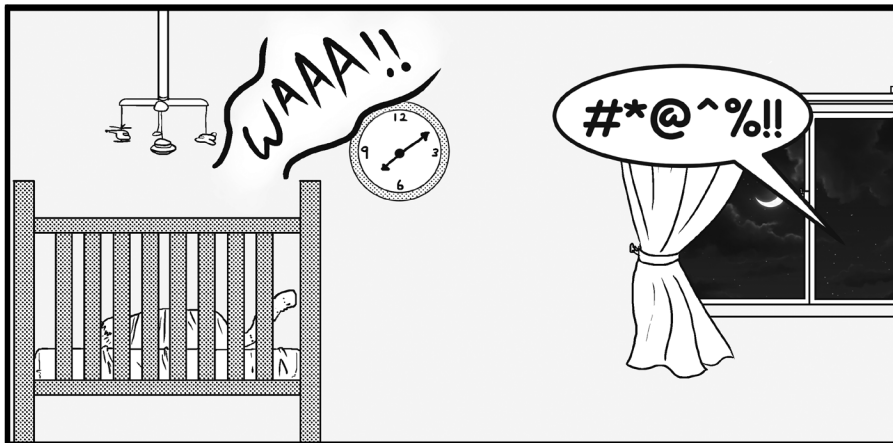
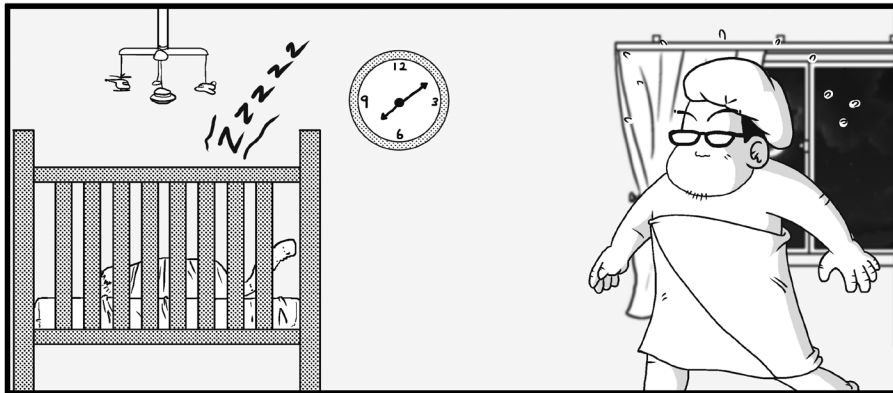
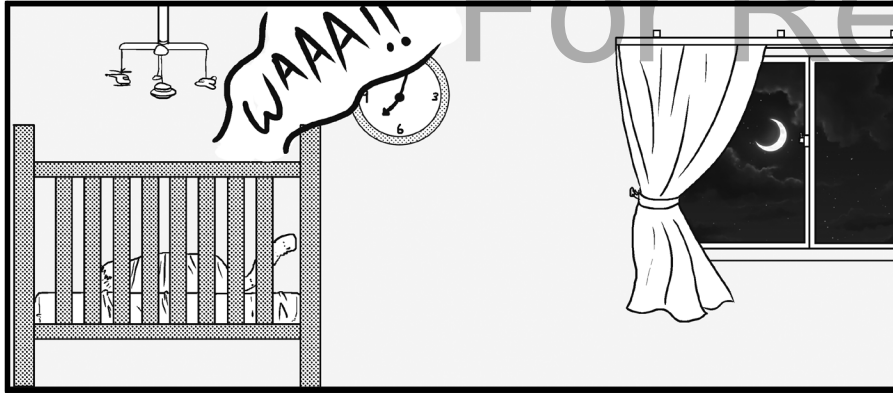


# TIMING





TIMING AGAIN



1, 2, 3 ...

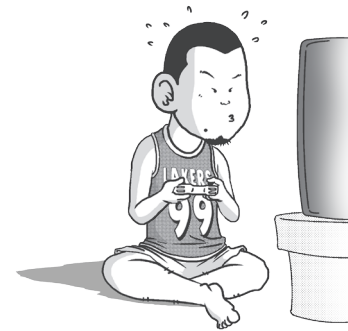


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## About the Authors



Dan Kuah began producing comics since 12 years old. By the age of 14, he had brushed his shoulders with well-known local cartoonists and became an apprentice under the wings of acclaimed local cartoonist James Teo. Dan is very passionate about comics and hopes to inspire his son, Benjamin, with his works.



Smith Leong has pretty much spent his career in advertising and digital work and now heads marketing at a business incubator with gastronomic local food tour, MakanBus, being his latest project. When he's not thinking of new business ideas and contributing ideas for *Ben Ben Diaries*, he spends his time on his award-winning blog [smithankyou.com](http://smithankyou.com) and trying to be an awesome Dad to his newborn son, Seth.