



Superlife of Ben Braver, The

Author: Marcus Emerson
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Synopsis:

Ben Braver is an ordinary kid living, well, an ordinary life...

So when he's chosen to go to a secret school for kids with super powers, he sees it as a chance to be special. He's hoping his super powers will kick in soon, but it's not looking promising... Then he discovers the bully from his old school is at his new school as well, and things just get worse. And then a strange sickness spreads through the school. Can Ben solve the mystery of the zombie-like infection? And will his super powers ever show up?

A funny and action-packed new series from the author of the best-selling Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja.

Author Bio:

That's not my real name. It's my secret identity. It's the mask I wear to fool people into thinking I'm some kind of legit author-dude when the truth is much simpler - I'm just a kid who never grew up.

It started in 2nd grade with Garfield. I developed my love of drawing by tracing that fat cat so many times that I could eventually draw a near perfect Garfield free-hand.

When I wasn't drawing, I was watching cartoons like Silverhawks, ThunderCats, Ninja Turtles, and Captain N: The Game Master. My favorite movies were the sci-fi ones - Back to the Future, Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure, Flight of the Navigator, and the Terminator. I played Nintendo like it was my job - games like Double Dragon, Blaster Master, Battletoads, Metal Gear, and Ninja Gaiden.

I grew up reading more comics than books. My faves were Gen13, Wildcats, Spawn, and X-men.

Telling stories is all I ever wanted to do. I write books that the 10-year-old me would probably dig. Someday I hope to send them to him after time travel is invented, but before someone messes it up and unravels the very fabric of the space-time continuum and destroys the entire universe.

Themes:
Superheroes
Humour
Adventure
Comics

Curriculum links:

Year 4 Media Arts [ACAMAM058](#)

Investigate and devise representations of people in their community, including themselves, through settings, ideas and story structure in images, sounds and text

Taking a series of photographs that show themselves and their friends as comic superheroes and villains through setting, costume and body language

English Year 6 [ACELT1614](#)

Analyse and evaluate similarities and differences in texts on similar topics, themes or plots

Origin story

In comic book terminology, an origin story is an account or back-story revealing how a character or team gained their superpowers and/or the circumstances under which they became superheroes or supervillains.

Ben Braver is sent to Kepler Academy – a secret school for kids with secret abilities (superpowers). Ben is yet to find out what his ability is, but all of the other students at the school are descendants of the Seven Keys, a group of scientists that underwent experiments to make them superhuman.

Research superhero origin stories and look at how they are all similar

Origin stories: Picture books and Novels

Batman: An Origin Story 9781434297310

Dc Green Lantern: An Origin Story 9781760158576

Dc Wonder Woman: An Origin Story 9781760158583

Superman: An Origin Story 9781434297327

Amazing Spider-Man: An Origin Story, The 9781742837277

Courageous Captain America: An Origin Story 9781742837963

Green Lantern: An Origin Story 9781434297341

Invincible Iron Man: An Origin Story 9781742836904

Wonder Woman: An Origin Story 9781434297334

SUPERHEROES

Create your own Superhero:

Ask students to come up with their own superhero.

What is their ability?

What do they look like?

What is their origin story.

If you need a starting point there are some Superhero generators available online:

<http://superhero.namegeneratorfun.com/>

<https://www.dckids.com/en-au/dc-super-friends/htmlgame/name/super-hero-me>

Creative writing idea:

Create a Step By Step Guide on how to become a Superhero:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTimaykm2hY>

CREATE A STEP-BY-STEP
GUIDE FOR HOW TO BECOME
A SUPERHERO