

Aaron Blabey

Born: Bendigo, Victoria

Lives: Leura, NSW.

Author/Illustrator of: *Stanley Paste*, *Noah Dreary*, *The Brothers Quibble*, *The Ghost of Miss Annabel Spoon* and *Pig the Pug*



Read more about Aaron and his wonderful books:
www.facebook.com/aaronblabeynews

Aaron's first book, *Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley* achieved remarkable success. It won the 2008 Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award (Early Childhood) and was short-listed for both the Crichton Award for New Illustrators and the prestigious New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards.

Where did you go to school?

All over the place!

Did you have a nickname growing up?

Moz. To do with my nervous energy, apparently.

What was your favourite book growing up?

Tintin and the Secret of the Unicorn

Who is your favourite children's author and illustrator?

My favourite picture book maker is Edward Gorey.

My favourite children's author/illustrator is Herge.

What is your favourite food/colour/movie?

Steak Tartare with chips (yes that's raw meat!)

Red.

Raiders of the Lost Ark.

Who inspired you to write and illustrate?

Bob Dylan, Picasso, Steven Spielberg, Francis Bacon, Herge, The Coen Brothers, Edward Gorey and Murray Ball.

What's the best thing about being an author/illustrator?

I love everything about it.

Why did you want to be an author and illustrator?

Because stories and pictures are the only things that totally make sense to me.

How do you think up ideas?

The trick is to never, ever stop looking for them. Be curious. About everything. And always ask yourself "what would I really enjoy seeing on this piece of paper right now..?"

Do you have a special place where you write?

My studio in Leura is my favourite place in the world.

What do you do when you are not writing?

I write movies for grown ups, I run, I listen to my incredibly big and awesome music collection and I hang out with my little family.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

I've been an actor, a painter, a grape-picker, a designer, an advertising copywriter, a video-shop dude, a comic-strip creator, a college lecturer, a screenwriter and a picture-book-maker. I haven't enjoyed all of it, but I don't regret any of it.

I'm proud of having lots of weird chapters in my scruffy old book.

