



# ERIC VALE

SUPER MALE

MICHAEL GERARD BAUER

*Illustrated by Joe Bauer*



Scholastic Canada Ltd.

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604 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1E1, Canada  
Scholastic Inc.  
557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, USA  
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PO Box 579, Gosford, NSW 2250, Australia  
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Scholastic Children's Books  
Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1DB, UK

www.scholastic.ca

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Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Bauer, Michael Gerard, 1955-, author  
Eric Vale, super male / Michael Gerard Bauer ; illustrated  
by Joe Bauer.

Originally published: Parkside, SA : Omnibus Books, 2013.  
ISBN 978-1-4431-3935-9 (pbk.)

I. Bauer, Joe (Illustrator), illustrator II. Title.  
PZ7.B322Ers 2015                      j823."92                      C2014-904571-9

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First published by Scholastic Australia in 2013.  
This edition published by Scholastic Canada Ltd. in 2015.

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Cover design copyright © 2013 by Steve Wells.  
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6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Canada 139 15 16 17 18 19






# SUPERHEROES!!!!

I couldn't believe it. Was it possible?  
Could it actually be happening? Were we about  
to do a study unit on ... SOMETHING GOOD?





It just **didn't seem right.**

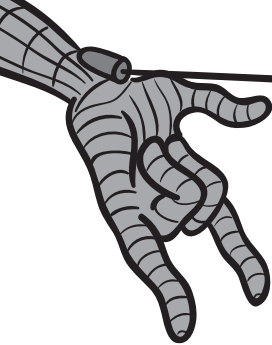


Last year with Mrs. McGurk in Year Four we  
only ever did units on topics like "The Least  
Interesting Stuff in the Known Universe."

But **SUPERHEROES rocked!**



Superheroes were one of my **most  
favourite-est things** in  
the whole world! I knew heaps of stuff about  
superheroes! Superheroes were my special  
subject! I was the **Superhero Guru!**



Mr. Winter was right. I **Was**  
excited. **SUPER** excited!

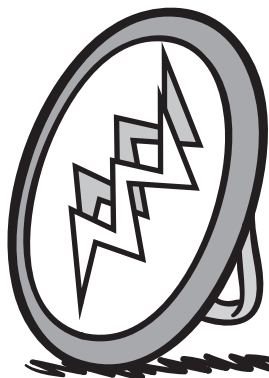
And when I looked around,  
I could tell that everyone else  
in the class was excited too.

What are we doing  
superheroes for? Superheroes  
are **dumb!**

Well, **almost** everyone.

“People think super-  
heroes are tough and brave. But  
it’s **easy** to act tough and  
brave when you’ve got **super**  
**powers**. I’d be brave too if

I was made out of steel or I could fly  
or if I had **super strength**  
or some dumb **super shield** or  
**super hammer** to protect me.




And how come superheroes just go around fighting and **smashing things up** all the time? Why don't they ever try to sit down and work things out with the bad guys so maybe they can all get along and be **friends?**"

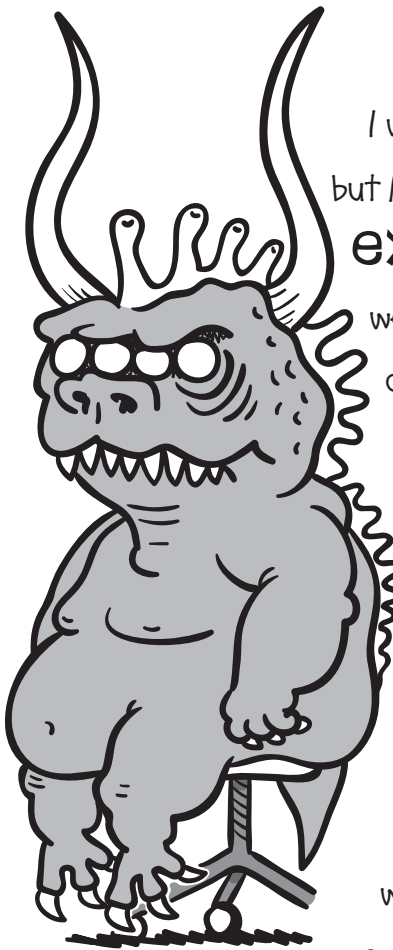
It was Meredith Murdoch.  
(Who else?)

Fast-breaking News Flash!  
**MEREDITH MURDOCH KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT SUPERHEROES!**

I'd like to see **her** sit down and have a friendly chat with a bad guy like **Humungatroid**. That dude would just smash you to a **million pieces** first and not even bother to ask any questions later!



LOOK,  
DISGUSTASAURUS -  
WHAT DO YOU SAY  
WE PUT ASIDE OUR  
DIFFERENCES AND  
GO FOR A NIGHT  
ON THE TOWN?



I was trying to explain that to Meredith, but Mr. Winter told us both to “hold those **excellent** thoughts” till next week when “everyone would get a chance to express their opinion” on the topic. And then he said this: “Even though next week will be **Superhero Week**, we’ll be looking at ‘real-life’ heroes as well. But first, we’ll start off by discussing what we **mean** by superheroes and what things they have in common. So what I’d like you all to do over the weekend is to start thinking of any superheroes



you know, and on Monday, if you want to, you can get up and tell us all about your **favourite superhero** and why you think they're **the best**. Oh, and bring along photographs or drawings or superhero figurines if you like."



How **awesome** was that! I knew straightaway who I was going to bring to class on Monday to talk about.

Only the **coolest superhero ever!**

