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Award-Winning Australian Manga & Graphic Novels for Bookstores (For Kids & Teens)



The Dreaming v1-3 [COMPLETED]

Vol 1: 9781922856395 / 5 February 2024 / Paperback / 190pp / 191x127mm / AUD\$24.95, NZD\$29.99
Vol 2: 9781922856456 / 17 June 2024 / Paperback / 198pp / 191x127mm / AUD\$24.95, NZD\$29.99
Vol 3: 9781922856593 / 1 August 2024 / Paperback / 212pp / 191x127mm / AUD\$24.99, NZD\$29.99
Sequel series coming in 2027

Publisher: IFWG Publishing International | **Australian Distributor:** NewSouth Books

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Lovecraftian supernatural mystery-thriller

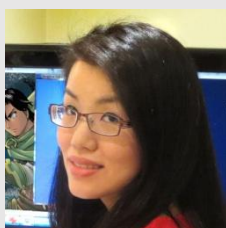
Synopsis: A pair of twin sisters go to a remote boarding school where schoolgirls have vanished. Once there, they start having strange dreams about the school's past, which may hold the key to the vanishings...

Praise for *The Dreaming*:

"Queenie Chan is wonderfully talented, and meticulous in her craft." – **Dean Koontz**, #1 NYT bestselling author

Key Selling Points:

- **Award-Winning:** Selected as an [ALIA Graphic Notable 2024 \(YA\)](#), ensuring quality and library appeal.
- **Complete Series:** A perfect, binge-readable 3-volume story—no waiting for the next installment.
- **Classic Horror Vibes:** Blends the atmospheric dread of H.P. Lovecraft with modern mystery suspense.
- **For Fans of:** *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* and classic Junji Ito horror manga.

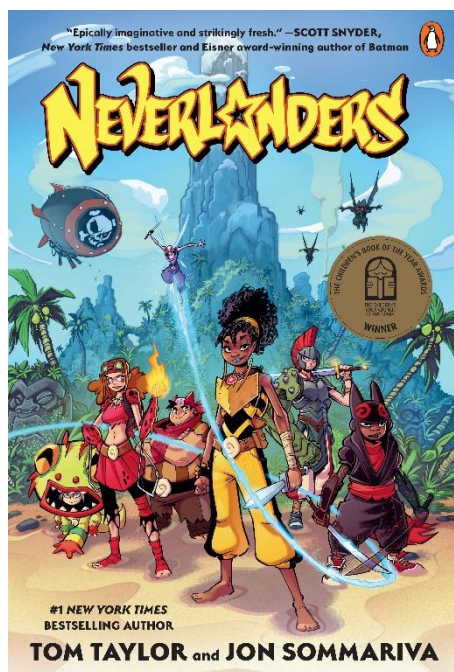


Writer & Artist: Queenie Chan

Website: queeniechan.com | **Instagram:** [@queeniechanhere](https://www.instagram.com/queeniechanhere)

Queenie Chan is a manga writer-artist living in Sydney. She enjoys mystery thrillers, especially when crossed with scifi, fantasy and horror. She is currently working on a 2-vol sequel to *The Dreaming*, coming in 2027.

Award-Winning Australian Manga & Graphic Novels for Bookstores (For Kids & Teens)



Neverlanders

9781761049071 / 20 September 2022

Paperback / 192pp / AUD\$22.99

Book 2 available in August 2026

Publisher: Penguin Random House Australia

Australian Distributor: Penguin Random House Australia

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Fantasy adventure, reimagined classic

Synopsis: Bee and her fellow runaways are their own found family. So when a stranger named Paco saves her life, Bee invites him to join their crew, thinking he's another lost teen. The truth is Paco's not just a lost teen, he's a Lost Boy from Neverland. And he needs Bee and the others

to come back with him.

Key Selling Points:

- **Award-Winning:** Winner of the 2023 CBCA Older Readers Book of the Year
- **Bestselling Creators:** From Tom Taylor, a #1 *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning writer (for DC, Marvel), and Jon Sommariva, an acclaimed artist who has worked on *Batman*, *Star Wars*, and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*
- **Instant Classic:** A fresh, action-packed, and heart-filled reimagining of *Peter Pan* for a new generation, praised for its diverse cast and modern themes
- **For Fans of:** Gripping, character-driven adventures like the Amulet series by Kazu Kibuishi and modern twists on classics such as *Fables*.

Praise for *Neverlanders*:

"Action-packed, quirky, and full of heart... a modern reimagining of *Peter Pan* that combines the fantasy, adventure, and whimsy of the original classic." – **Kami Garcia**, NYT bestselling author



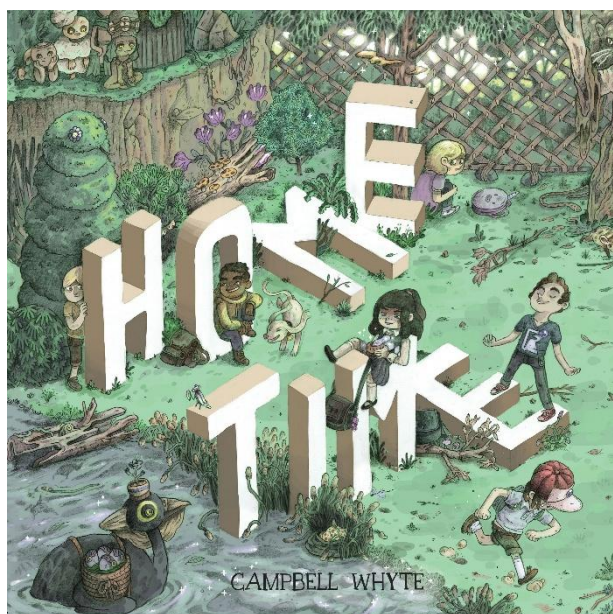
Writer: Tom Taylor | **Artist:** Jon Sommariva

Website (Tom): tomtaylormade.com | **Instagram:** [@TomTaylorMade](https://www.instagram.com/TomTaylorMade) & [@sommariva](https://www.instagram.com/sommariva)

Tom Taylor is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author, BAFTA-nominated screenwriter, and the co-creator of the animated series *The Deep*. His comics have sold over 10 million copies globally.

Jon Sommariva is an acclaimed comics artist whose work includes *Batman*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Star Wars*, and *Avengers*.

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Home Time [Book 1]

9781603094122 / 22 August 2017

Hardback / 228pp / AUD\$49.99

Softcover available in October 2026

Publisher: Top Shelf Productions

Australian Distributor: Penguin Random House Australia

Age: Middle Grade (9-12) & Teens

Genre: Fantasy adventure, coming-of-age

Synopsis: Set in Perth, it's the last summer before high school for twins Lilly and David and their friends. Their plans for relaxation are gone when they fall into a river and wake up in a village of fantastic creatures. Hailed as magical spirits and attacked by lizard warriors, these kids must find their way home—if they don't throttle each other first.

Key Selling Points:

- **Award-Winning:** Winner of the 2018 Excellence in Graphic Literature Award for Best YA Book; 2018 Pubwest Design Gold Award Winner- Children's/YA Book, Illustrated; 2018 Dinky Award Winner
- **Visually Stunning:** Each chapter is drawn in a different artistic style, creating a rich, immersive experience
- **Nostalgia:** Inspired by classic fantasy games like *Dungeons & Dragons* and childhood summers, it's a heartfelt story about friendship and growing up
- **For Fans of:** The imaginative worlds of *Hilda* by Luke Pearson, the game *Dungeons & Dragons*, and the friendship dynamics in *The Baby-Sitters Club* graphic novels

Praise for *Home Time*:

"Combines the rich imagination of *Dungeons & Dragons* with puckishly charming characters and a touch of video-game geometry in his spectacular first graphic novel." – **Publisher's Description**



Writer & Artist: Campbell Whyte

Website: campbellwhyte.com | **Instagram:** [@campbellwhyte](https://www.instagram.com/campbellwhyte)

Campbell Whyte is an award-winning Australian cartoonist and illustrator based in Perth. He is currently working on his next graphic novel *Luna Express*, coming in 2026.

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Award-Winning Australian Manga & Graphic Novels for Bookstores (For Kids & Teens)



Word Smith v1-5

Vol 1: 9780994289940 / April 12, 2018 / Paperback / 46pp / 260 x 170mm / AUD\$27.95

Vol 2: 9780994289988 / July 15, 2020 / Paperback / 60pp / 260 x 170mm / AUD\$32.95

Vol 3: 9780648946700 / June 21, 2021 / Paperback / 66pp / 260 x 170mm / AUD\$32.95

Up to vol 5 available: Collected Edition coming

Publisher: TL Creative | **Australian Distributor:** Woodslane

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Steampunk Fantasy Adventure

Synopsis: Sometimes all it takes is a word. When one of Victoria's words goes awry, she sets off on an adventure to try and get things back the way it was. With her dragon Sparky, will she succeed or make matters worse?

Key Selling Points:

- **Award-Winning:** Winner of Australian Comic KS Awards 2021, 2022 and 2023. Winner of Australian Creative Match Lab 2020. Volume 1 and Volume 2 are part of the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge.
- **Recognition:** The Word Smith series is in over 500+ Australian school libraries, and over 500+ public libraries worldwide
- **For Fans of:** The art of *Winx Club comic*

Praise for Home Time:

"Word Smith has engaged my student's interest and imaginations. They have discovered a world of exciting possibilities. Words are powerful. Use them wisely." - **Lisa Clark (Teacher Librarian)**



Writer: Stephen Kok | **Artist:** P.R. Dedelis.

Website: sigmatestudio.com | **Facebook:** [@sigmatestudio](https://www.facebook.com/sigmatestudio)

Stephen is an award-winning graphic novelist. He was nominated as a creator for Best Series (Fractured Shards) 2023 and Best Letterer 2024 in the US Ringo comic awards. He is currently working on the next volume of Word Smith while adding happy word balloons for other publications.

Manga Recommendations (For Kids & Teens)

For those interested in stocking some teen-friendly manga series, these titles tend to sell well and are appropriate for younger audiences.

Since manga series often run for many volumes, stocking the first 2–3 volumes (and keeping Volume 1 consistently available) then reordering based on demand is recommended.



Spy Family [Series]

Vol 1: 9781974715466 / July 8, 2020 / 220pp / AU\$ 17.99 NZ\$ 20.99

Publisher: Viz Media LLC

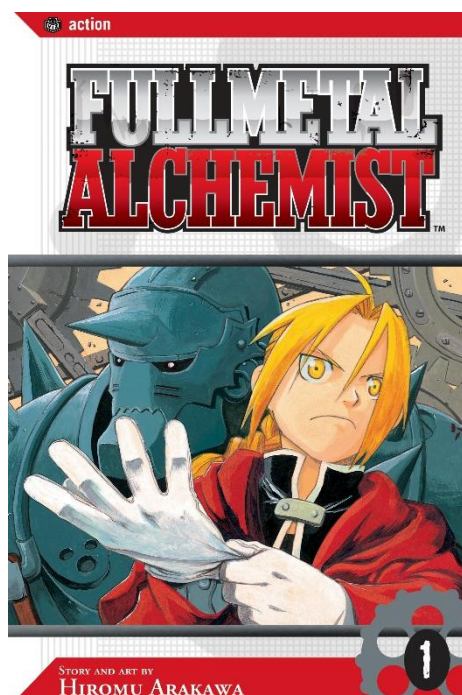
Australian Distributor: Simon & Schuster

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Action Comedy, family drama

Synopsis: An action-packed comedy about a fake family that includes a spy, an assassin and a telepath!

Master spy Twilight is unparalleled when it comes to going undercover on dangerous missions for the betterment of the world. But when he receives the ultimate assignment—to get married and have a kid—he may finally be in over his head!



Fullmetal Alchemist [Series]

Vol 1: 9781591169208 / May 3, 2005 / 192pp / AU\$ 17.99 NZ\$ 20.99

Publisher: Viz Media LLC

Australian Distributor: Simon & Schuster

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Action Fantasy Adventure

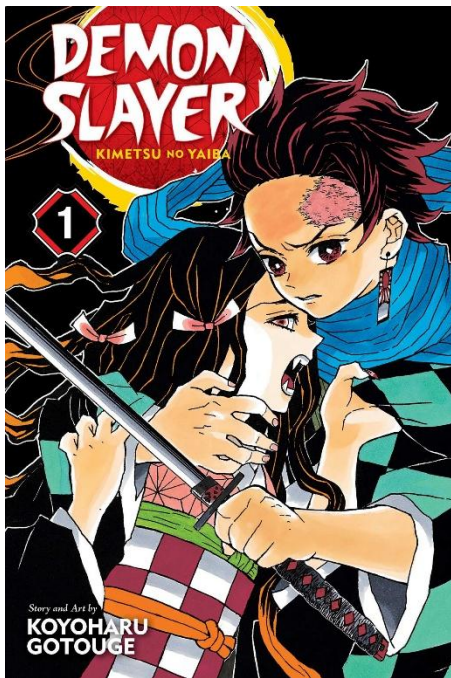
Synopsis: In an alchemical ritual gone wrong, Edward Elric lost his arm and his leg, and his brother Alphonse became nothing but a soul in a suit of armor.

Equipped with mechanical “auto-mail” limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist, seeking the one thing that can restore his and his brother’s bodies...the legendary Philosopher’s Stone.

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Demon Slayer [Series]

Vol 1: 9781974700523 / Aug 10, 2018 / 192pp / AU\$ 17.99 NZ\$ 20.99

Publisher: Viz Media LLC

Australian Distributor: Simon & Schuster

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Action Horror, Medieval Japan

Synopsis: In Taisho-era Japan, kindhearted Tanjiro Kamado makes a living selling charcoal. But his peaceful life is shattered when a demon slaughters his entire family.

His little sister Nezuko is the only survivor, but she has been transformed into a demon! Tanjiro sets out on a dangerous journey to find a way to return his sister to normal and destroy the demon who ruined his life.



My Hero Academia [Series]

Vol 1: 9781421582696 / August 4, 2015 / 192pp / AU\$ 17.99 NZ\$ 20.99

Publisher: Viz Media LLC

Australian Distributor: Simon & Schuster

Age: Teens (13+) & Young Adult

Genre: Superhero Action

Synopsis: What would the world be like if 80 percent of the population manifested superpowers called “Quirks”? Heroes and villains would be battling it out everywhere! Being a hero would mean learning to use your power, but where would you go to study? The Hero Academy of course! But what would you do if you were one of the 20 percent who were born Quirkless?