



**WILD HAIR**  
**A NEW DEAL FOR RELUCTANT READERS!**

Candy Jar is pleased to announce its first graphic novel *Wild Hair* by Paul Wines and Johan Ari Wijaya.

Aimed at children, this delightful historical adventure is designed to entertain, educate, and to cajole reluctant readers.

Paul, who lives deep in the Welsh valleys, draws his inspiration from classic books, Disney animation and cinema blockbusters. He says: "I have always enjoyed getting lost in a good book and letting my imagination run wild, but equally I love a good movie. I mean, who doesn't enjoy a good Marvel, DC, Disney or George Lucas film? I've taken my love for classic literature and iconic films, and thrown all my ideas together to create my very own series of adventures."



Consequently, Paul created Wild Hair, a tribe with the sensibilities of *Desperate Dan*, combined with the majestic storytelling of *Brave*. He continues: "Not all children are confident readers. A book with nothing but words can be heaven for some, but a nightmare for others. When I was a child there was a plethora of comics; everything from *Whizzer and Chips*, *Action*, *The Eagle* to *The Beano*, but sadly only *The Beano* remains. I am a huge fan of American comics, but feel the British market needs a little something extra."

Paul's brand new graphic novel is an ideal read and features comedy, slapstick and adventure at every turn. Paul is confident that his characters will warm the hearts of a new generation. He says: "Creating stories has

always been something I have enjoyed doing. Whether it was a bedtime story, or a creative getaway to keep the children amused, or a fun way to entertain friends and family. Looking back, my children can still recall many of my outlandish stories: the ragdoll filled with grass seeds, the horse who lived in the cupboard, or the friendly little pixies who lived under the bed.”

Paul, who was born in a thunderstorm, has always had a whirlwind of ideas flying around his head. He believes that now is the perfect time to share his imagination with the wider world. Shaun Russell, head of publishing at Candy Jar Books, agrees. He feels that UK industry has neglected British innovators for far too long. Shaun says: “It’s time to reclaim children’s media for twenty-first century. As a child I was very fond of characters such as Asterix, Billy the Cat, Sweeny Toddler, Bananaman and Calamity James. I truly believe that children, especially those who struggle to read, should be given the opportunity to experience these stories and characters alongside traditional reading.”

Paul concludes: “In an age where children have YouTube, Instagram and Tik Tok, I feel it’s more important than ever to capture the imagination of children who still want to read and get lost in adventure. Modern children still love reading books, and *Wild Hair* is something distinctive in this ever-changing world we live in.”