

ISSUE #4

# DANGER DAN



*TRACES THE PERILOUS POISON*



**LESLEY-ANNE & MONICA LIM**

## **Praise for *Danger Dan***

“I like Danger Dan as it makes learning the history of Singapore so much fun!”

—Natalie, 11, Rosyth School

“Danger Dan is adventurous yet mischievous! Together with Melody, he uncovers many secrets of Singapore’s history. I couldn’t put the books down!”

—AJ, 8, Kong Hwa School

“The books are so creative! I like the idea of travelling through time and all the weird, awesome inventions, like the air-con jacket.”

—Chine, 11, Nanyang Primary School

“I like Danger Dan because he often imagines an amazing adventure when he is doing something boring.”

—Linus, 9, Anglo-Chinese School (Primary)

“Very addictive books that draw readers in like an action-packed movie! Engaging mix of imagery, humour, plot twists, all laced with a distinctive local flavour.”

—Chow Yian Ping, journalist, *Lianhe Zaobao*

“Expect the unexpected with Danger Dan as you join him on his adventures.”

—Susan Liang, History and Social Studies teacher,  
Pioneer Secondary School

“If Doctor Who were 11 years old and born in Singapore, he’d be a lot like Danger Dan.

This time-travelling boy wonder romps through Temasek with a feisty female partner, offering a fun alternative to boring textbook versions of local history.”

—Clara Chow, journalist and parenting columnist

“Danger Dan cleverly weaves moments of history into an entertaining read.

A page-turner!”

—Yao Lingyun, educator, Nanyang Girls’ High School



# **DANGER DANE**

*TRACES THE PERILOUS POISON*



written by  
**Lesley-Anne & Monica Lim**  
illustrated by  
**James Tan**

**E**

EPIGRAM BOOKS / SINGAPORE

Also in the series  
*Danger Dan Confronts the Merlion Mastermind*  
*Danger Dan Tackles the Majulah Mayhem*  
*Danger Dan Spooks the Peculiar Peranakan Pirate*

Also by Monica Lim  
*The Good, the Bad and the PSLE*

Copyright © 2014 by Monica Lim and Lesley-Anne Tan

Illustrations copyright © 2014 Epigram Books

All rights reserved.

Published in Singapore by Epigram Books.

www.epigrambooks.sg

Illustrations by James Tan

Cover design and book layout by Lydia Wong

Published with the support of



National Library Board, Singapore

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Lim, Monica  
DANGER DAN TRACES THE PERILOUS POISON /

written by Lesley-Anne and Monica Lim ;

illustrated by James Tan

Singapore : Epigram Books, 2014.

pages cm

ISBN: 978-981-4615-23-5 (paperback)

ISBN : 978-981-4615-22-8 (epub)

1. Time travel – Juvenile fiction.

2. Poisoning – Juvenile fiction.

3. Superheroes – Juvenile fiction.

4. Singapore – Juvenile fiction.

I. Tan, Lesley-Anne. II. Tan, James. III. Title.

PZ7

S823 -- dc23 OCN888948558

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places,  
and incidents either are the product of the author's imagination  
or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons,  
living or dead, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

First Edition:

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

*To Mona and Hein Moh,  
the Dynamic Duo,  
and Mrs Zahira, the coolest  
Social Studies teacher we know*





# CHAPTER



**BEEEEEP!**

**BEEEEEP!**

**BEEEEEP!**

*Danger Dan has triggered the alarm! While sneaking into the Sinister Spyder's lair, he has accidentally activated a booby trap.*



# BEEEEEP!

*The walls are slowly closing in. Soon he will be squashed between the walls, trapped like a helpless fly. The walls are drawing closer...and closer...*

“DANNY! Did you miss your alarm again? You’re going to be late! Wake up!” His mother’s voice jerked him out of his dream. Danny opened one eye drowsily and glanced at his alarm clock...

6.55am! Only five minutes to get ready for school!

# THUD

Danny tumbled out of bed. His blanket was wrapped so tightly around him that he looked like an Egyptian mummy. He struggled out from the tenacious clutches of that menace of a blanket. Why was it that he never felt sleepy at bedtime, but did when it was time to get up?

Danny stumbled into the bathroom and tried to multi-task. He brushed his teeth with his right hand and combed his hair with his left. (That meant he only brushed the teeth on the right side of his mouth and combed the hair on the left side of his head.) In his hurry, he washed the comb instead of his toothbrush. But there was no time to worry about that.

He struggled into his school uniform while making his way to the dining table. His three sisters were already finishing their breakfasts. Amy, Big Sister Number One, was rattling on and on to nobody in particular. “What’s the point of breakfasts anyway? You eat and you get hungry all over again. Why can’t we just eat a bigger dinner the night before and store up enough for the next day?”

Amy was 18 years old and her special feature was her Big Mouth. She could out-talk anyone simply by wearing them down. Her favourite smartphone app was the voice recorder. She

could listen to her own voice all day long.

“Breakfast is the most important meal of the day,” said Betty, Big Sister Number Two. “You need it to increase your metabolic rate and avoid spikes in your blood sugar levels later on. This prevents arterial plaque buildup, keeps atherosclerosis at bay and decreases the risk of a myocardial infarction.”

Betty was 16 years old and had a Big Brain. Her mind was like an encyclopedia that stored facts she had read years ago. Her favourite hobby was ploughing through textbooks for errors and writing to the publishers to suggest improvements.

Danny was so late that he barely had enough time for breakfast. One minute left! He snatched the last slice of cold toast and reached for the jar of chocolate spread. EMPTY!

“Oi!” said Danny indignantly, his Big Ears turning red. “Who finished the chocolate spread?” He glared accusingly at Candy, Big



Sister Number Three, who was licking her chocolate-smears fingers. Candy was 12 years old and didn't have a Big Mouth or a Big Brain. She was just...BIG. Her breakfast usually consisted of crispy bacon, a mountain of fluffy scrambled eggs, a pile of pancakes covered in glistening maple syrup, a tower of toast, half a papaya and a jug of milk. She could easily have left some chocolate spread for Danny but she just felt like being mean.



The three sisters sniggered unsympathetically at Danny's predicament.

"You should have woken up on time!" goaded Amy.

"The early bird catches the worm!" gloated Betty.

"Chocolate spread! Nom nom nom..." grunted Candy.

That was just the start of a very bad day for Danny. Together with Candy, he took the MRT from Toa Payoh MRT station to school. He was in Primary 5 and she was in Primary 6. With only one slice of plain toast in his tummy, Danny could barely pay attention in class. He was glad when it was finally recess time.

Danny rushed to the canteen. Every stall had already prepared an array of dishes for the hungry students. Should he have chicken rice? But the prata stall beckoned with its crispy Indian pancakes, doused in smooth, aromatic curry. Or maybe he should have nasi lemak.

The coconut rice served with a sunny-side up egg, fried chicken and a dollop of sweet chilli sauce looked tempting.

In the end, Danny bought a chicken cutlet and mashed potatoes smothered in delicious brown gravy. Placing his plate on an empty table, he ran off to buy a drink. When he returned with a packet of cold Milo, he found Candy in his seat, shovelling HIS mashed potatoes into HER mouth.

**“OI!”**

*Danger Dan is infuriated! The Colossal Candy-saurus has stolen his breakfast and is now stealing his snack! He must put an end to this injustice.*

*Danger Dan rushes forward and tackles the Colossal Candy-saurus. But the Colossal Candy-saurus is like a concrete slab and doesn't budge. She grips the plate tightly and continues to munch away on his snack. In a last-ditch attempt to save his meal, Danger Dan gives the plate a hard yank.*

*The Colossal Candy-saurus loses her hold on the plate, which slides off the table.*

**CLATTER!**

The plate rattled against the floor, snapping Danny out of his fantasy. The half-eaten chicken cutlet went flying and the mashed potatoes splattered everywhere. The other students in the canteen turned to stare at the commotion.

**RIIIING!**

Nooooo! Recess was over. There was no time to buy another plate of food. Danny would have to endure the rest of the school day in hunger. He could have wept in frustration.

The lesson right after recess was Social Studies. Mrs Yip was Danny's Social Studies teacher and the teacher he disliked the most.

She was boring, unreasonable and had a bad temper—a triple threat.

“Pirates in the Straits Settlements were a great menace to traders coming to Singapore,” droned Mrs Yip. “They were vicious and cruel...”

Danny perked up. For once, the topic was something that he was familiar with. He remembered his last time-travelling adventure back to 1819 where he had met Poh, the friendly Peranakan pirate. Danny waved his hand and interrupted Mrs Yip. “Not all of them were bad. There were some good pirates.”

Mrs Yip frowned. She disliked being interrupted. “Those pirates were blood-thirsty scoundrels from China!” she retorted. “They hijacked ships and killed—”

“Not all of them were Chinese! At least one of them was Peranakan.”

“How dare you!” Mrs Yip was Peranakan and she took the remark personally. “What are you trying to say, Danny?”

“I’m just saying not all of them were bad!” protested Danny.

“And what makes you such an expert?” challenged Mrs Yip. “Were you there?”

“Er...yes?”

“YES??” Mrs Yip gaped at Danny incredulously. “Danny Chew! You jolly well stop this nonsense right now!”

“But...but...it’s true! I know a pirate—” stammered Danny.

“ENOUGH! I’ve had it with you and your bad attitude!” screeched Mrs Yip. “I want you to write me an essay on the Straits Settlement pirates by tomorrow. Five hundred words with all the proper research!”

“But that’s not fair—”

“Do you still want to argue? Seven hundred words!”

“No! But...”

“One thousand words!”



## BONK!

Danny threw his head against his desk in despair. He stayed that way until the bell rang. He was afraid that if he said any more, he would end up having to write a 10,000-word research paper. Life was so unfair.

The rest of the morning passed in a hungry blur for Danny. Everything reminded him of food.

“In the mouth, chewing breaks food down into smaller pieces, which travel through the gullet

to the stomach...blah blah blah...” yakked the Science teacher. “Digestive juices break down food...blah blah...digested food...blah blah blah... food...food...”

Food...food...mashed potatoes...chicken cutlet...soooooo hungry...

The following Maths lesson was no better. “To find the area of the circle, square the radius and multiply by pi...blah blah blah...times pi... blah blah blah...pi...pi...”

Pi...pie...apple pie...chicken pie...dying of hunger...

## RIIIING!

Finally! School was over! Danny dashed out of the classroom and headed towards the MRT station. He managed to board the train that had just arrived. Danny had it all planned: the minute he alighted at Toa Payoh MRT station,

he would head to his favourite hawker centre and buy himself a big steaming bowl of noodles for lunch.

Danny's school was just two MRT stops from his home so in no time at all, he heard the automated train voice announce: "Toa Payoh". He hurried out of the train and his peripheral vision caught a familiar flash of wavy blue streaks.

The text 'FWWNOOP' is rendered in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are slanted to the right, and there is a white motion blur effect behind the letters, suggesting rapid movement or a time-travel event.

Oh no! He had time-travelled again!

The word 'CHAPTER' is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Above the letter 'A' is a small silhouette of a bat-like creature with wings spread, flying towards the right. Below the word 'CHAPTER' is a large, black, inverted triangle. Inside the triangle is a white number '2'. The entire graphic is centered on the page.

"NOOOOOO!" yelled Danny. Melody, the 14-year-old girl from the future was standing in front of him, having just brought him back in time. He took her by the shoulders and shook her hard. "Send me back! Send me back!" He grabbed her hand and waved it around wildly, hoping to redraw the time portal archway. It didn't work.

"I'm not in the mood for an adventure! I want to go home! Send me back NOW! Send me

## About the Authors



Monica Lim and Lesley-Anne Tan are a mother-daughter writing team (in that order). If Lesley-Anne could have a super power, she would choose the ability to stop time, so that she can study and write books in no time at all. Monica's preferred super power is mind control, so that she can make Lesley-Anne stop dreaming about time freezes and get back to work.

## About the Illustrator



James Tan is an illustrator living in the western part of Singapore. He likes to draw animals and loves cats. He enjoys reading and drawing, garnering inspiration from daily life and travelling. James' most heroic acts involve saving snails from being crushed by joggers and cyclists when he goes for walks.

## **A SNEAK PREVIEW OF ISSUE #5**



“I don’t want to get stuck in the jungle!” wailed Danny. “There’s nothing here! I will starve! I can’t even open coconuts! We’re never going to catch the Sinister Spyder! We’re dooooooomed! We’re—”

**Rustle!**

“What was that?” Danny’s Big Ears tingled anxiously.

“What’s what?” asked Melody impatiently.

**RUSTLE!**

“That!” Danny pointed at the bushes. “Maybe it’s a wild boar! Or a lion...” His voice started to quake.

“Don’t be silly!” said Melody, even though she sounded uncertain. “There aren’t any lions here...I think. Anyway, what happened to all that big talk about fearless Danger Dan? Where is he now?”

“Danger Dan has fled!” replied Danny in a small voice. “Only a very scared Danny is left!” His voice got higher with each word and ended in a squeak.

The bushes shook and the leaves trembled, as if a creature was trying to push its way through. Danny froze and stared at the bushes in fear.

**RUSTLE! RUSTLE! RUSTLE!**



**GRAB ALL  
THE BOOKS  
IN THE SERIES!**



**E**

**EPIGRAM BOOKS**

**WWW.EPIGRAMBOOKS.SG**

**CHECK OUT:  
WWW.FB.COM/DANGERDANBOOKS  
FOR MORE DETAILS.**





**“Danger Dan is an exciting, fast-paced series that cleverly blends Singapore history with science fiction, adventure and comedy. It had me chuckling out loud. My kids love the series.”**

—Janice Koh, actress  
and former Nominated Member of Parliament



**IT'S 1972 AND QUEEN ELIZABETH II IS IN TOWN! SINGAPOREANS FROM ALL OVER THE ISLAND HAVE GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE ROYAL VISIT BUT ONCE AGAIN, THE SINISTER SPYDER THREATENS TO SPOIL THE PARTY.**

**IN DANGER DAN TRACES THE PERILOUS POISON,**

**DANNY AND MELODY TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO PREVENT THE QUEEN FROM BECOMING A CASUALTY IN A VILLAINOUS PLOT. FIND OUT IF DANGER DAN AND GADGET GIRL CAN SAVE SINGAPORE FROM AN INTERNATIONAL DISASTER!**



**READ THE BOOKS!**



**WATCH OUT FOR  
DANGER DAN CREATES THE  
ULTIMATE UTAMA UPROAR  
AS THE ADVENTURES OF DANGER DAN  
CONCLUDE!**

[www.fb.com/DangerDanBooks](http://www.fb.com/DangerDanBooks)

ISBN-13: 978-981-4615-23-5



9 789814 615235

[www.epigrambooks.sg](http://www.epigrambooks.sg)