

ISSUE #5

# DANGER DAN



*CREATES THE ULTIMATE UTAMA UPROAR*



**LESLEY-ANNE & MONICA LIM**

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

“I love Danger Dan! His time travel adventures with Melody are always so funny and interesting.”

—Johannah, 13, Yishun Town Secondary School

“It’s a very fun book and a good way to learn about Singapore’s history.”

—Brandon, 10, Tao Nan School

“I like Danger Dan as he can go back in time. I can learn about the history of Singapore in a unique way.”

—Wee Heng, 9, West Grove Primary School

“Danger Dan’s antics always cheer me up and I find myself bursting into laughter when I read the books!”

—Conan, 12, Yumin Primary School

“*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

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

—Chow Yian Ping, journalist, *Lianhe Zaobao*

“If you are looking for fun and adventure, check out *Danger Dan*! Combining excitement, humour and Singapore’s history, *Danger Dan* does not disappoint! A wonderful read for children who enjoy action-packed books.”

—Sabrina Koh, English Language teacher, Holy Innocents’ Primary School

“Featuring off-beat and high-tech methods, *Danger Dan* effectively transforms dry facts and figures into rollicking adventures.”

—Dr Myra Garces-Bacsal, National Institute of Education



# **DANGER DANE**

*CREATES THE ULTIMATE UTAMA UPROAR*



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

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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*  
*Danger Dan Traces the Perilous Poison*

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

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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

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*For all our qwintastic readers,  
especially Daddy and Nai Nai*





# CHAPTER

## 1

*It's Halloween but there is no time for Trick-or-Treating! The Fantasy Squad arrives in the Russian countryside. They're after the Sinister Spy, who is hiding in his spooky mansion. It sits in the centre of a graveyard. The yard is filled with bare trees, their crooked branches like claws scratching open the night sky.*

*"It looks haunted," says Silver Wing, as the four superheroes walk towards the door of the mansion.*

*Cryptic lifts his hand to knock on the door...*

**Creak!**

*The door slowly opens by itself. Flex Rex, the superdog, sniffs out the Sinister Spy, leading his team-mates in to a grand ballroom.*

*"Look out!" cries Energia.*

**SMASH!**

*A glittery chandelier drops from the ceiling...right onto Flex Rex! Luckily, he flattens his elastic body against the floor and is not hurt. Cryptic pulls Flex Rex out. The Fantasy Squad proceeds cautiously up an old staircase.*

**CRACK!**



*The step Energia is on splinters and caves in. She tumbles through the stairs. Silver Wing flies after her and catches her just before she hits the floor.*

*The Fantasy Squad follows Flex Rex to a library. Flex Rex pauses at a bookshelf and looks around in confusion. The scent trail stops there.*

*“Where is the Sinister Spy?” asks Energia.*

*Cryptic leans against the bookshelf. Suddenly, it turns and Cryptic falls backwards. It is a secret room! His team-mates run into the room and see a large flashing screen in the centre. Below the screen is a control panel with hundreds of buttons and levers...and the Sinister Spy! He has been working the controls to trigger the booby traps throughout the mansion.*

*“Curses!” sneers the Sinister Spy. “When will I ever be rid of you?”*

*The Fantasy Squad assembles to face off against the Sinister Spy. This is it! The final showdown!*

*The Sinister Spy activates trap doors on the*

*floor but the Fantasy Squad leaps and somersaults agilely over them.*

*Arrows shoot out from the walls. “Time for a change!” hollers Cryptic. He transforms into a giant shield and covers the others. A large metal dome rises from the ground, encasing the Sinister Spy and the control panel. Silver Wing folds his wings in and his body changes to pure silver. He punctures the dome like a large bullet, leaving a gaping hole.*

*Energia jumps through the hole. Her body glows as she conjures up an electrical orb. She flings the orb onto the control panel.*

**BBZZTT!**

*The control panel short-circuits and sparks fly everywhere. The screen falls to the floor and shatters. The ceiling starts to crumble and the whole place shakes. Throughout the mansion, there are sounds of objects falling and windows breaking.*



*“NO!” cries the Sinister Spy. Flex Rex stretches out like a rubber band and coils around the villain.*

*“Time to go!” orders Cryptic. He transforms into a majestic winged lion with glowing, red eyes. Cryptic grabs hold of the Sinister Spy with his large paws and the Fantasy Squad climbs onto his back.*

# CRASH!

*Spreading his wings, Cryptic rockets through the roof and into the night sky. Once again, the Fantasy Squad emerges victorious!*

Danny felt a playful swat at the back of his head. “Put that away, Danny,” he heard his father say. “You didn’t come here to read your comic book! The show will be starting soon.” Danny and his family were at the Float at Marina Bay, attending the National Day Parade. The floating stadium was a sea of red and white.

“I already know what’s going to happen!” protested Danny. All Primary 5 students got to attend a National Day Parade rehearsal so he had already seen the entire show a few weeks earlier.

“I know you do,” replied Danny’s mother. “But we’re here as a family and we’re going to enjoy this time together.” It had not been easy for his parents to get hold of tickets to the popular event and they had insisted he come along.

Danny reluctantly put away his *Fantasy Squad* comic book and glanced at his sisters. They were examining their National Day Parade fun packs. “Look at this!” squealed Amy, Big Sister Number One, holding a red lion mask over her face. Amy was 18 years old and had a Big Mouth. Even when she was not prattling on about something or the other, her lips were always moving. Like now. She was making low growly noises and sounded like a cat with a sore throat.

“Oh, cool! Fascinating facts!” said Betty, Big Sister Number Two, fishing out a booklet on the history of Singapore’s National Day Parade. Betty was 16 years old and had a Big Brain. Flipping through the brochure, she was quickly disappointed. “These aren’t fascinating at all!” she complained. “I already know all of them. It doesn’t even mention the 1981 NDP parade commander’s favourite ice-cream flavour! Bah.” She made a mental note to write to the NDP organising committee.

“Snacks!” grunted Candy, Big Sister Number Three, whipping out a packet of potato chips from her fun pack. Candy was 12 years old and didn’t have a Big Mouth or a Big Brain. She was just...BIG. Food was her one and only true love. She tore open the packet and stuffed chips into her mouth.

Danny squeezed all the contents of his fun pack into his red sling bag. He loved the fun pack. It was one of the best parts of the NDP...

besides the air show, of course. Nothing could beat the flypast—he didn’t mind watching the parade twice if it meant seeing the fighter jets do their aerial tricks again.

The pre-parade activities had begun and lion mascots danced down the aisles, urging the spectators to wave their hands in the air in time to the music. “Lame,” thought Danny to himself. He was mortified to see his parents gamely follow suit. “Come on, kids!” his father called out enthusiastically. Danny, Amy and Betty slumped in their seats, trying not to look uncool. Only Candy raised her arms in the air. Unfortunately, she had no sense of rhythm and waved in the opposite direction of everyone else.

Thankfully, the arm-waving exercise soon stopped and the parade started in earnest. The contingent march past. The parachute formation. The sea display by the navy and the coast guard. And then...

**VRROOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO**  
**OOOOOOOOOOOM!**

Danny's Big Ears perked up. "Woohoo!" he shouted. "The fighter jets are here!" He bobbed up and down in excitement as the planes flew over the crowd. The planes swooped and swirled with practised ease.

**VRROOOOOOOOOOSH!**  
**VRROOOOOOOOOOSH!**

They traced pictures in the sky, leaving thin trails of white smoke behind. They zoomed right towards each other, looking as if they would collide, but they broke away with a flourish at the very last minute. Danny was on the edge of his seat.

"Amazing coordination!" raved Amy.

"Such precision!" remarked Betty.

"TOO LOUD!" roared Candy, covering her ears.

The crowd whooped and cheered as the planes did one final loop before soaring into the distance.



The stage brightened as the performances began. Each item was a showcase of song and dance with the clever use of props. Towards

the end of the show, spectators were treated to a video montage on Singapore's history.

Various segments reminded Danny of his previous time-travelling adventures. Raffles! Nearly didn't get his treaty signed. The national anthem! Phew, it could have been something too horrific for words. The Merlion! Almost became the Orchid de Lionhead.

*Singapore owes Danger Dan a great debt! He has saved his country many times, yet his heroic deeds aren't celebrated. Danger Dan has to operate under a shroud of mystery. Such is the burden of a secret superhero. Someday, he will get his due reward.*



Fireworks filled the night sky with colour and light. Small golden ones rocketed into the air like a thousand shooting stars. Big green

ones exploded into brilliant starbursts that illuminated the floating platform.

"Awe-inspiring!" gushed Amy.

"Breathtaking!" gasped Betty.

"Can we go home now?" growled Candy. "I'm out of snacks."

The last firework shot into the sky and fell as a shower of red sparks. They lingered in the air like tiny stars before fading away, signalling the end of the NDP.

It took a while to leave the crowded stadium, but Danny and his family eventually made it out and they walked to Promenade MRT station. They boarded the train headed towards Dhoby Ghaut MRT station, where they would transfer to the North-South line. The packed train raced forward. Danny slung his red sling bag onto his shoulder.

"Dhoby Ghaut," announced the MRT's automated voice. Danny and his family inched their way towards the exit. As the train doors opened,

Danny stepped out of the train and caught a familiar flash of wavy blue streaks.

**FWWWWOOP**

He had time-travelled again! When to this time?



*Danger Dan has gone back in time again! He's on another mission to save Singapore's history. Danger Dan scans his surroundings. He must have gone really far back into the past. There are no cars, roads or buildings, just a dense jungle. What new obstacles will he face? Bring them on! Danger Dan is ready.*

Danny struck a superhero pose. This was mostly for the benefit of Melody, the 14-year-

# About the Characters

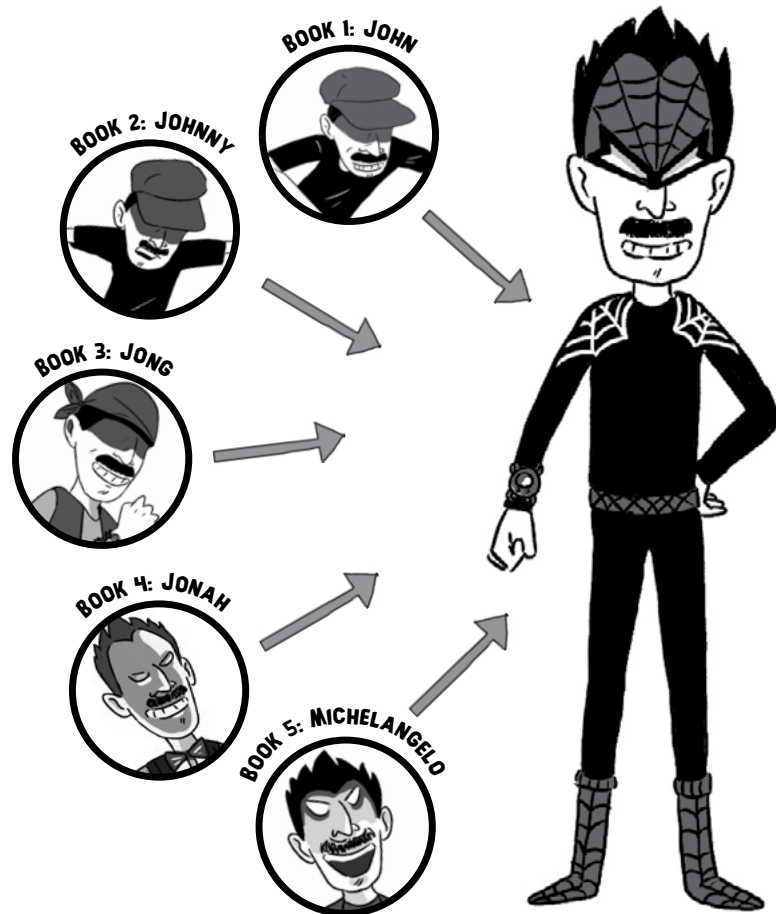


<b>Name</b>	Danny aka Danger Dan
<b>Age</b>	11 (but often behaves like he's eight)
<b>Distinctive feature</b>	Big ears
<b>Signature items</b>	<i>Fantasy Squad</i> comic book. Red sling bag.
<b>Likes</b>	Anything cold and sweet. All of Melody's gadgets. Comic books and superheroes.
<b>Dislikes</b>	His three older sisters. Vegetables in any form. Cockroaches, especially big, flying ones.
<b>Strengths</b>	Imaginative. Brave. Acts quickly in any situation.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Doesn't think before he acts. A magnet for trouble (and danger).



<b>Name</b>	Melody aka Gadget Girl
<b>Age</b>	14 (in the year 2135)
<b>Distinctive feature</b>	Silvery voice
<b>Signature items</b>	Silver hair clip (actually a mega computer which also conveniently keeps her hair in place). Grappling hook watch.
<b>Likes</b>	Gooley Gooberberry Gummies in all flavours except Coconut Explosion. Virtual jetpack tennis.
<b>Dislikes</b>	Danny being annoying. Birds.
<b>Strengths</b>	Smart. Usually calm (unless with Danny). Able to think under pressure.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Terrible aim. Sometimes a little bossy.

<b>Name</b>	Michelangelo aka the Sinister Spyder
<b>Age</b>	21 (in the year 2135)
<b>Distinctive feature</b>	Impressive moustache
<b>Signature items</b>	Spider-like watch (a time machine)
<b>Likes</b>	Messing up Singapore's history
<b>Dislikes</b>	Spiders
<b>Strengths</b>	Avoiding capture
<b>Weaknesses</b>	A ferocious temper



# About the Creators



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.



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.

*Have you enjoyed reading about  
Danger Dan's adventures in old Singapore?  
Here's a treat for you!*

**ANNOUNCING**  
**DANGER DAN**  
*UNCOVERS THE SECRETS OF SINGAPORE*

In this bumper issue, Danger Dan explores the streets of Singapore all the way from the time of Sang Nila Utama (the official version this time!) right up to our nation's independence. How does he do this, you ask? Well, he has Gadget Girl with him! He can time-travel!

But wait! There's more!

Danger Dan and Gadget Girl also investigate intriguing areas seldom found in your history books (shhhh!), like cinemas, airports, sports and of course, food! Join the superhero duo as they unearth quirky and long-forgotten secrets.

Find out fascinating facts like:

- ▼ Which animals have escaped from the Singapore Zoo?
- ▼ How long was the very first MRT ride?
- ▼ Where can you see a tiger car? (And what on earth is a tiger car??)

And most importantly:

- ▼ When was the first PSLE held?



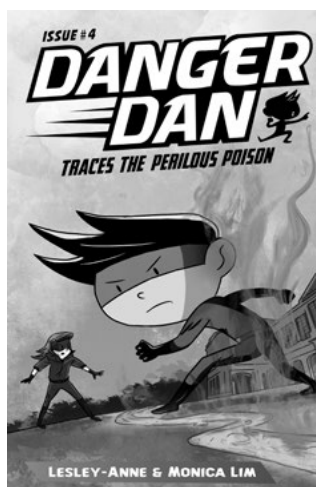
The answers to these burning questions and much more will be revealed in Danger Dan's new unofficial guide to Singapore's past!

**Coming your way mid-2015.**



# Adventure awaits!

Grab all the books in the series today.



Check out  
[fb.com/dangerdanbooks](https://www.facebook.com/dangerdanbooks)  
for more details



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**“Monica Lim and her daughter Lesley-Anne mix history and humour in their *Danger Dan* adventures featuring a terrific time-travelling hero from Singapore.”**

—Akshita Nanda, *The Sunday Times*



IT ALL STARTED FOUR TIME TRAVELLING ADVENTURES AGO AND NOW, DANNY AND MELODY HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE VERY BEGINNING! THE YEAR IS 1299 AND THE LEGENDARY SANG NILA UTAMA HAS JUST LANDED ON THE ISLAND OF TEMASEK. DOES HE REALLY SEE A LION IN THE JUNGLE? OR IS IT SOMETHING MORE DISTURBING?

IN **DANGER DAN** CREATES THE **ULTIMATE UTAMA UPROAR,**

**DANGER DAN AND GADGET GIRL PREPARE FOR A FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH THE SINISTER SPYDER, WHO IS DEAD SET ON DESTROYING SINGAPORE. WILL IT ALL END IN TRIUMPH OR TRAGEDY?**



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