

My 8-Year-Old Self

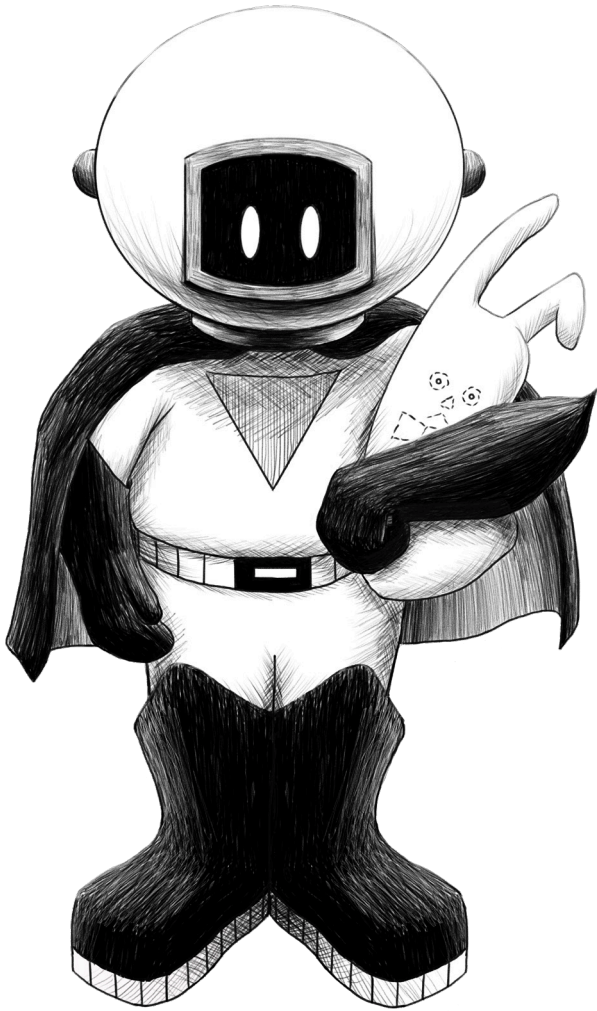
A Year in the Life of a Geeky Introvert

Written and Illustrated by Mike Ivy

From bullies to Bigfoot: a whimsical, semi-autobiographical graphic memoir of imagination and introversion.



Follow the adventures of author/illustrator Mike Ivy's 8-year-old self as he navigates the stress of everyday life and school while living in his own fantasy world as he pursues his ambitions to draw the most epic comic book ever created.



About the book:

Mike Ivy's *My 8-Year-Old Self* is a whimsical, semi-autobiographical graphic memoir of imagination and introversion. The main character — Ivy's perpetual 8-year-old inner child — wears a space suit (because it looks cool) and uses creativity and imagination to navigate the awkwardness of everyday life. His constant companion is Bunny, a handmade rag-doll rabbit.

Fueled by a love of *Star Wars* and *Snoopy*, he draws comic books about the interstellar adventures of Space Dog and Bunny, and often joins them in his own fantasy escapades. Over the course of a year filled with mischief, mishaps, and imagination, *My 8-Year-Old Self* dreams of creating the most epic comic book in the universe.

Features:

- Completely redesigned 2nd edition
- Over 70 cross-hatched illustrations
- Several previously unpublished illustrations
- For fans of Charles M. Schulz and Edward Gorey
- For fans of science fiction and geek culture
- For ages 8+ and adults who never stopped being kids

88 pages - 8.5 x 8.5"

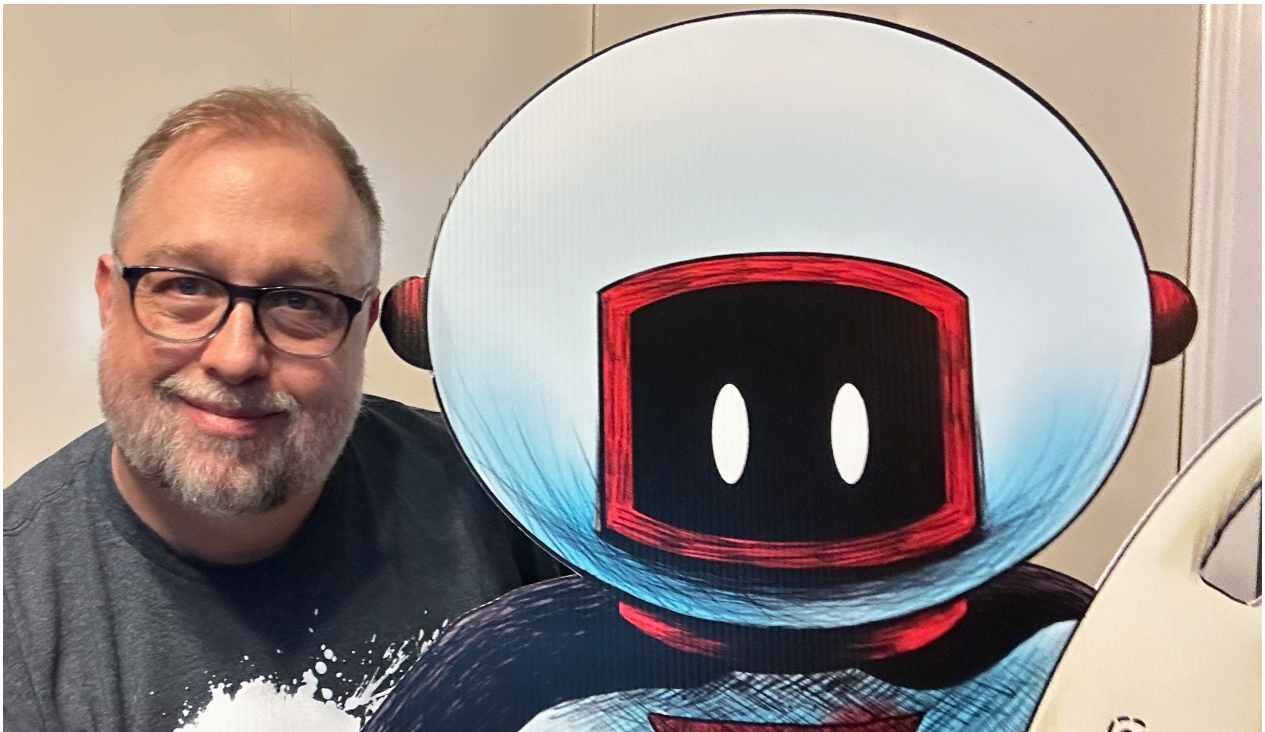
Hardcover

ISBN: 979-8-9859801-3-4
\$29.99 (suggested retail price)

Paperback

ISBN: 979-8-9859801-4-1
\$14.99 (suggested retail price)

AUTHOR *MIKE/IVY* ILLUSTRATOR



Formal Biography:

Born and raised in Austin, Texas, Mike Ivy was an Art teacher for 25 years. Drawing has been his passion since early childhood. Teaching Art allowed him to continue growing and developing as an artist himself, inspired by the many artists he introduced to his students, especially Edward Gorey and Charles M. Schulz. He still lives in the Austin area along with his husband and two very spoiled dogs, and is currently working on the second book in the series, "The Sophomore Slump." He is available for interviews, signings, and school visits.

Casual Biography:

I am an Austin-based artist and former art teacher spending 25 years inspiring young creators in Pflugerville ISD. A lifelong doodler, I started drawing my character, Space Dog, after seeing *Star Wars* in 1977 and quickly became a one-boy comic book empire, full of hubris, with an audience of one. Influenced by Charles M. Schulz and Edward Gorey, I eventually created *My 8-Year-Old Self*—a storybook-style graphic memoir that brings together my childhood imagination, teaching experience, and love of drawing. Today, I've come full circle, still sketching Space Dog's adventures while keeping the hubris (mostly) in check.

Interior Preview: *My 8-Year-Old Self: A Year in the Life of a Geeky Introvert*

My 8-Year-Old Self is a huge

GEEK!

His obsession primarily focuses on a face-changing time traveler, a starship exploring the galaxy, and a saga about interstellar wars.



He hangs paper plates to make his room look like his favorite TV time machine!

Sometimes, the teasing at school gets to be too much.

But he has the best coping mechanism in the world:



My 8-Year-Old Self can

DRAW!

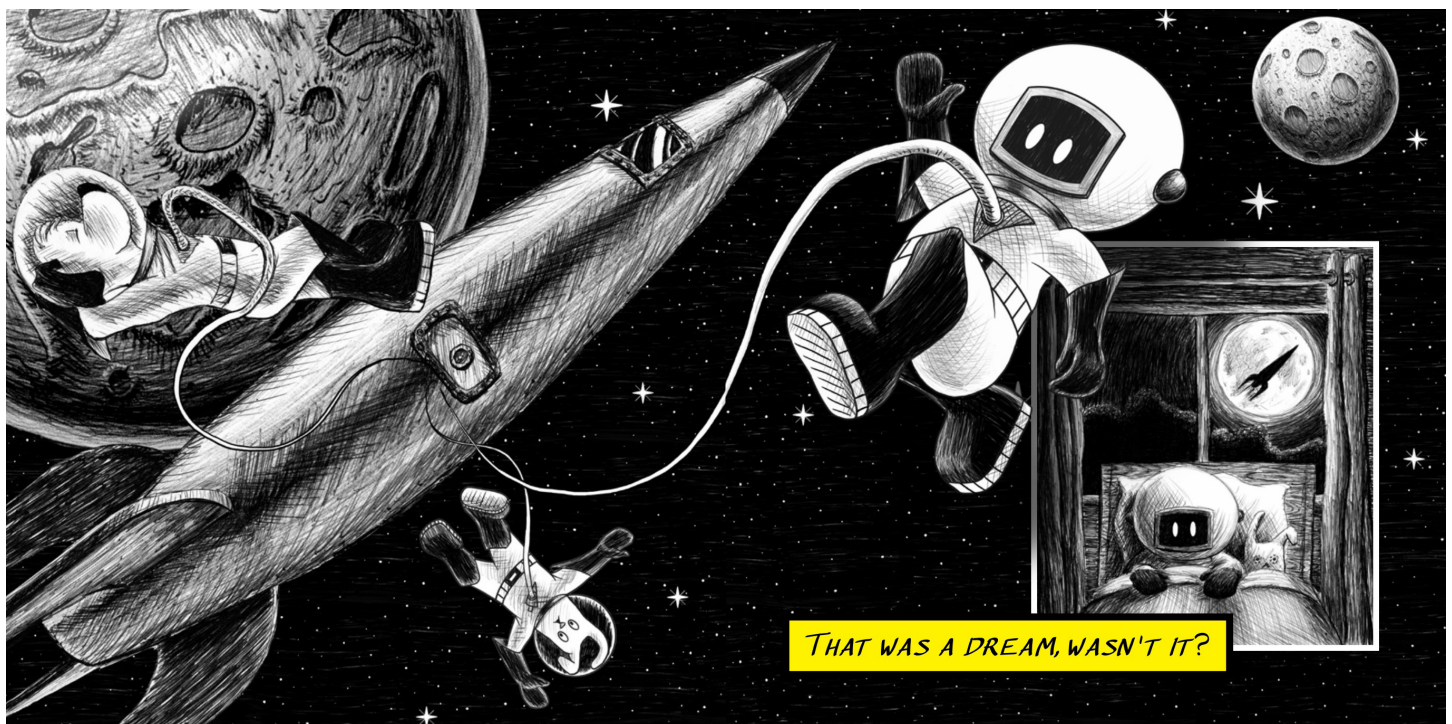
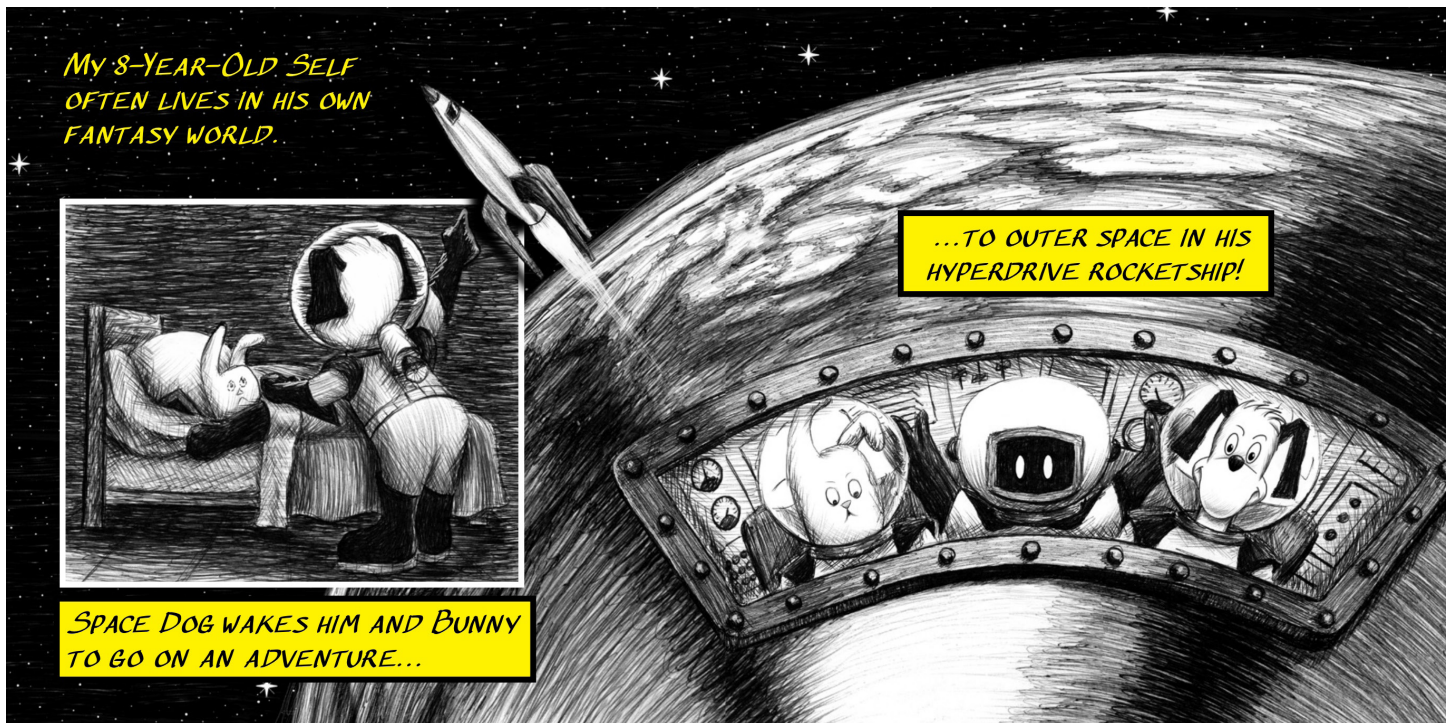
He dreams of being the next Charles M. Schulz or George Lucas.



Inspired, he creates a cartoon character he calls:

SPACE DOG

Interior Preview: *My 8-Year-Old Self: A Year in the Life of a Geeky Introvert*



Media Suggestions:

- "How childhood creativity can become a lifelong artistic journey."
- "From teaching art to drawing space dogs: the evolution of Mike Ivy."
- "A whimsical mash-up of geek nostalgia and childhood awkwardness."
- "Austin author reimagines childhood through art."



Praise for the 1st Edition:

"Reconnect with your inner child through this whimsical and charming book. The author/artist clearly remembers what it's like to be a child, and he brings you along on his sweet, sentimental journey of the imagination. I loved it." --D. K. Boyd

"Beautifully illustrated, this book will immediately take you back to your childhood. I miss my space-suit." -- Loyd Blankenship

"This was a cute and entertaining book that draws the reader into the life and remarkable imagination of an 8 year old's daily life. The author is also the illustrator, and the drawings help tell the story in a way everyone has related to once in their lives. Original and amazing illustrations, this book is an enjoyable read for everyone. I especially recommend for children who are more introverted, into science fiction, and exploring the galaxy." --Carr Simpson

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Scan for more info.

