



ANH Do



Anh Do is a Vietnamese – born Australian author, actor, comedian and painter. He was born on the 2nd of June 1977 to Tam and Hein Do. Anh had two siblings, Khoa and Tram. Anh's family fled from the aftermath of the Vietnam war in 1980, sailing in a leaky boat to Australia. His uncles were imprisoned as American allied sympathisers because they fought against the Viet Cong. After a long journey of surviving 2 pirate attacks, staying several months in a Malaysian refugee camp, which, they were eventually freed from because his father walked out in a 'borrowed' uniform and demanded their release, a two-year-old Anh and his family arrived in Sydney.

When Do's family were looking for a boat to travel on, the price was so high that they were forced to sell every possession to get tickets. The boat was nine and a half metres long and carried 40 passengers. During the trip, Do's family and the rest of the passengers were attacked by two bands of pirates. The first group stole one of the two engines and the second stole the other one. It was reported that when the second band left, one of the pirates threw a gallon of water onto the boat, keeping all but one refugee alive. On top of that, they survived a huge storm but luckily, nobody was injured. Finally, after five long days, Anh and passengers arrived in Australia.

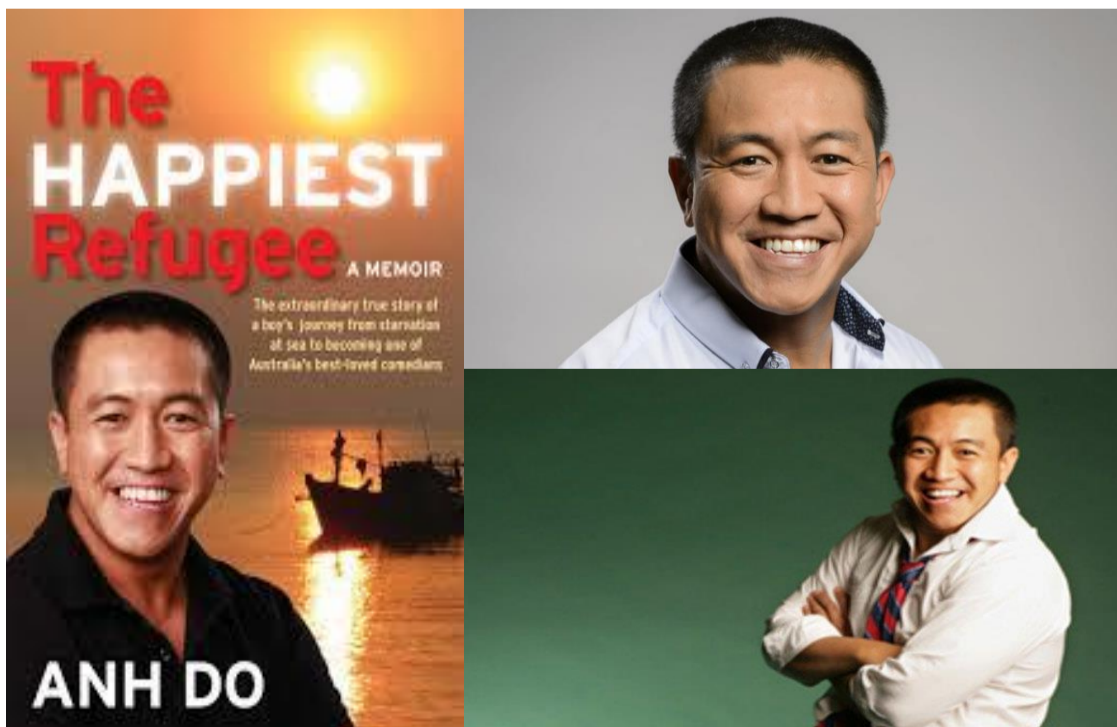
During his childhood, Anh's family suffered from poverty. Anh's father left his family in 1991, leaving Anh's mother Hein, to look after three kids. Hein only earned \$6.80 an hour working at a clothing store, so Anh and his siblings couldn't go to school. At the age of 14, Do began a small business breeding tropical fish after learning that \$15 spent on an adult fish could spawn 500 babies. Anh had one aim in life, to help lift his family from poverty. In 1999, he attended The University of Technology in Sydney. He was often bullied due to his race and because of the way he spoke. Even though Anh encountered so many hardships during his childhood, he never gave up and continued to work hard.

While studying his first year in University, Anh owned a store that sold American – Indian artifacts, which he later expanded to four stores. Six months before finishing his combined business law degree, he was offered a job for 60 hours a week, but surprisingly, he turned down the offer and pursued his interest of stand – up comedy.

After graduating from university, Anh continued to persevere in his career. He took every gig he was offered, including spruiking fruit and vegetables in shopping malls and hosting boxing tournaments, until he'd saved a \$40,000 deposit. Anh married Suzanne Do and had 4 kids.

2011 was a big year for Anh Do. He won the 2011 Independent Booksellers Book of the Year (for The Happiest Refugee), 2011 Joint winner (with musician Paul Kelly) of the Biography of the Year (The Happiest Refugee), 2011 Best Newcomer (The Happiest Refugee), 2011 Book of the Year (The Happiest Refugee). Anh Do has written many successful books such as The Happiest Refugee, The Little Refugee, The Weirdo Series, Hotdog books, the Ninja Kid and Rise of the Mythix. All of these books have won many awards and recognitions. Today, Anh still continues his passions. Anh do truly is the happiest refugee.

Written by anya satpathy



bibliography

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