

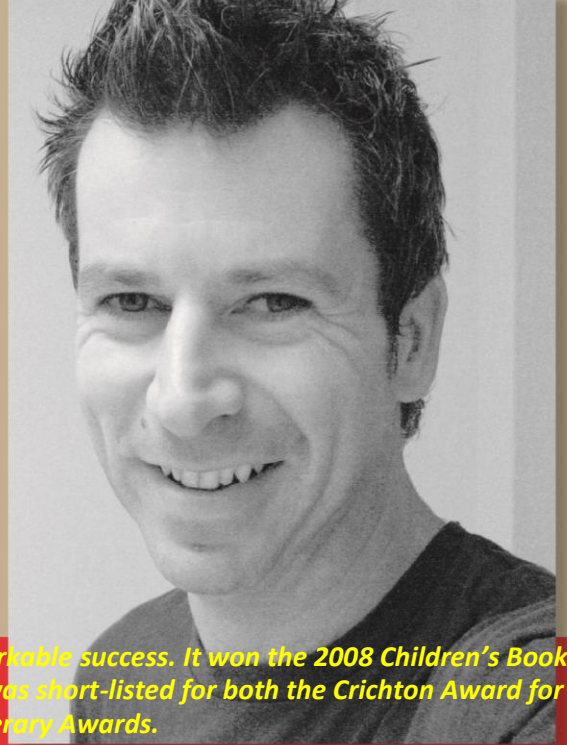
# Star Author

## Aaron Blabey

*Born: Bendigo, Victoria*

*Lives: Leura, NSW.*

*Author/Illustrator of: Stanley Paste, Noah Dreary, The Brothers Quibble, and Pig the Pug*



*“Aaron’s first book, Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley achieved remarkable success. It won the 2008 Children’s Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award (Early Childhood) and was short-listed for both the Crichton Award for New Illustrators and the prestigious New South Wales Premier’s Literary Awards.*

**Where did you go to school?**

All over the place!

**Did you have a nickname growing up?**

Moz. To do with my nervous energy, apparently.

**What was your favourite book growing up?**

Tintin and the Secret of the Unicorn

**Who is your favourite children’s author and illustrator?**

My favourite picture book maker is Edward Gorey.  
My favourite children’s author/illustrator is Herge.

**What is your favourite food/colour/movie?**

Steak Tartare with chips (yes that’s raw meat!)  
Red.  
Raiders of the Lost Ark.

**Who inspired you to write and illustrate?**

Bob Dylan, Picasso, Steven Spielberg, Francis Bacon, Herge, The Coen Brothers, Edward Gorey and Murray Ball.

**What’s the best thing about being an author/illustrator?**

I love everything about it.

**Why did you want to be an author and illustrator?**

Because stories and pictures are the only things that totally make sense to me.

**How do you think up ideas?**

The trick is to never, ever stop looking for them. Be curious. About everything. And always ask yourself “what would I really enjoy seeing on this piece of paper right now...?”

**Do you have a special place where you write?**

My studio in Leura is my favourite place in the world.

**What do you do when you are not writing?**

I write movies for grown-ups, I run, I listen to my incredibly big and awesome music collection and I hang out with my little family.

**Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?**

I’ve been an actor, a painter, a grape-picker, a designer, an advertising copywriter, a video-shop dude, a comic-strip creator, a college lecturer, a screenwriter and a picture-bookmaker. I haven’t enjoyed all of it, but I don’t regret any of it. I’m proud of having lots of weird chapters in my scruffy old book.

*Published by Scholastic Australia  
<http://www.scholastic.com.au/>*

