

the wizerd! AND THE POTION OF DREAMS!

Dear Reader,

The creators of this book were two very different types of kids: Rachel was mostly an uncoordinated, indoorsy reader, while Michael was an outdoors kid with the "problem" of being too energetic. Looking back on our childhoods, we wanted to collaborate to craft a story that kids of all kinds could enjoy.

We created *The Wizerd* because kids deserve to see characters in the books they read who are as impulsive and vibrant as they are. Children need to know that their energy, enthusiasm, and mistakes are not things to feel bad about. The protagonists in *The Wizerd* are learning to live in the same way we all do: by barreling through and trying to be kind when they knock other people over.

In the same way that *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and *Futurama* twist the sci-fi genre, we wanted to allow ourselves to play in a fantasy world without attempting to sound like fantasy writers. We wanted to bring the spectacle of books like *The Lord of the Rings*, but with our own voice inspired by our lives spent consuming pop culture. With *The Wizerd*, we hope to create something that is fun and doesn't bog down the reader with hundreds of too-similar character names. (Why would you name two characters in the same book Sauron and Saruman, J.R.R.? It's very confusing!) Also, we wanted to draw cool sword fights.

Anyway, we hope readers like the adventure in this book. We put all of the effort we could muster into every nook and cranny—and we think it shows! Enjoy!

—Sweater & Dukes



The Wizerd Vol. 1: And the Potion of Dreams is ™ & © 2020 Michael Sweater and Rachel Dukes. All rights reserved.
Oni Press logo and icon are ™ & © 2020 Oni Press, Inc. All rights reserved.
Oni Press logo and icon artwork created by Keith A. Wood.