

PAUL V. ALLEN

NONFICTION AUTHOR



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Newsletter #17 - March 2022

Mark Gruenwald: Master of Fictional Reality

In the January newsletter I shared that I had sent a proposal to the University Press of Mississippi for a biography of Marvel comic book writer and editor **Mark Gruenwald**. Well, they liked what they saw, and offered me an advance contract! All of my other books haven't reached the contract stage until after a through peer-review process, so I'm honored by this vote of confidence, and only a little intimidated by the deadline that comes along with it!

The book will be part of a new series about influential figures in comic books called Biographix.

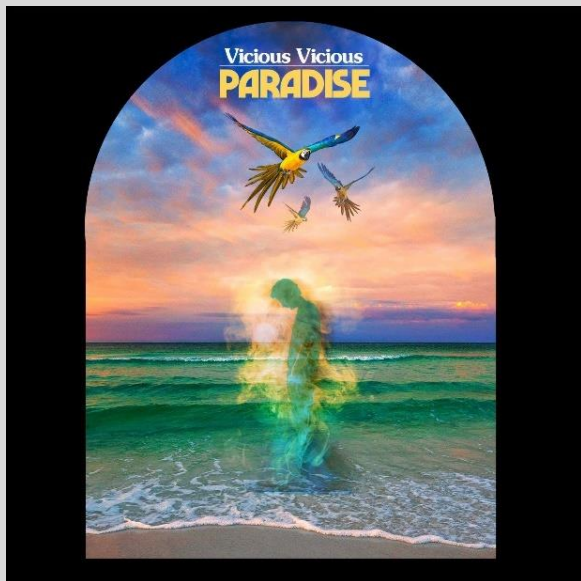
Mark wrote the origin for the character Combo Man, who was created to promote Combos brand snacks in the mid-1990s. Read more about him [here](#).



The Hopefuls

It's always momentous when any of the Hopefuls guys puts out new music. February saw the release of Vicious Vicious's excellent sixth album, **Paradise**. Give it a listen on your preferred streaming service (unless you have Amazon Music Unlimited, where it is frustratingly still not available).

I also wrote about both [Vicious Vicious](#) and fellow Hopefuls-related band [Kid Dakota](#) for the "12 by..." series on my music blog, *3 Minutes, 49 Seconds*.



A Signing Sighting

The pandemic pretty much knocked out my in-person promotion for **I Can Read It All By Myself: The Beginner Books Story**, so I'm very happy to do be able to do a signing this May at Bobzby Books in downtown Bloomington. In addition to the selling and signing, there'll be free stickers and bookmarks, and even a raffle!

Local Author Book Signing **Paul V. Allen**

**Saturday, May 21st
9:30AM - 12:00PM**

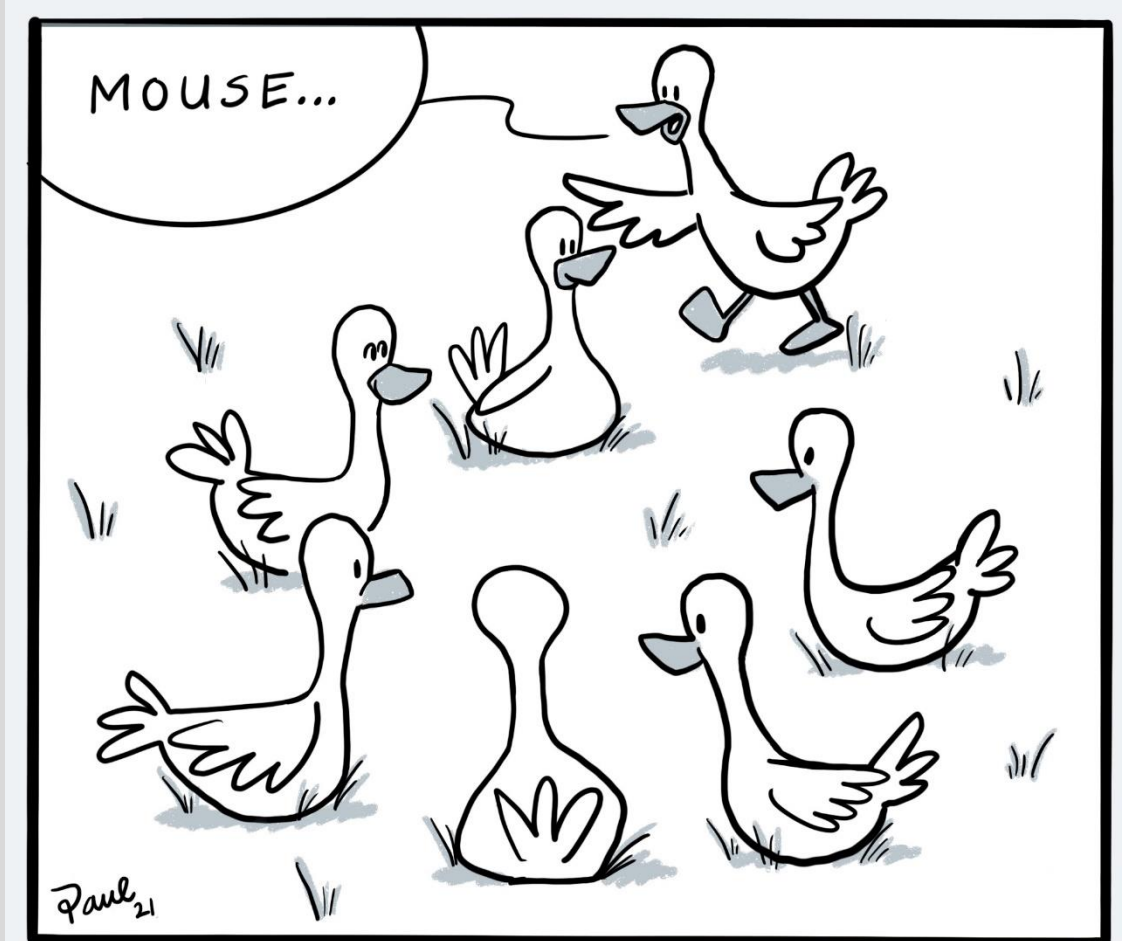
Bobzby Books
419 N Main St. Bloomington, IL

Paul V. Allen is a researcher and writer with a special interest in documenting the lives and works of creative people in the fields of children's books, comics, and music. He lives in Normal.

Books will be available for purchase during book signing event.



A Brain Cloud



The ducks loved a good game of "Mouse, Mouse, Rat."

As always, thank you for reading. Love and peace to you all.