

NONFICTION AUTHOR



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## July 2021 Newsletter

## I Can Read It All By Myself: The Beginner Books Story

It's been fun and gratifying to hear the initial reactions to my third book since its publication in May. Thanks to all of you for your support!

If you'd like to hear me talk about the book, I appeared on episode #300 of *Deep in Bear Country: A Berenstain Bearcast*. <u>https://berenstainbearcast.org/episode-</u> <u>300-i-can-read-it-all-by-myself</u>

And here are my top 10 personal favorite Beginner Books, which I shared on Facebook and Twitter in June: <u>http://www.paulvallen.com/top-10-favorite-beginner-books.html</u>

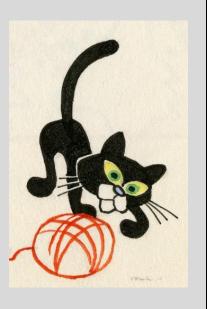
## Heroes for the '90s!

My personal history of superhero comics of the 1990s is now complete through 1994. Having reached the halfway point of the decade, I'll be taking an extended hiatus from the project to begin researching what I hope will become my fifth book (I'm not ready to reveal the topic yet, but it's closely related to this project).

In the meantime, you can catch up with all 26 essays here: http://24pgs.blogspot.com/2021/07/heroes-for-90s-1990-1994.html

## Jack Kent The Wit, Whimsy, and Wisdom of a Comic Storyteller

Earlier this month I was finally able to take a trip to the Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota. There I perused 14 boxes full of Jack Kent art. Besides the thrill of seeing his original sketches in person, I also discovered several treasures. These included manuscripts (which Jack called "manuscribbles") for several unpublished stories, an educational filmstrip I hadn't known existed, and the original version of his first children's book, *Just Only John*, done in a completely different art style.





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