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Opening extract from
**The Most Powerful Boy in the
Universe**

Written by
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Introducing Compton Valance, his friends and family...

COMPTON
VALANCE*



BRYAN NYLON

Compton's best friend ever.
(He really likes custard.)



* I know what you're thinking. "Compton Valance" isn't a real name. It's one of those made-up names that sounds a bit funny. Like "Nugget McDoo" or "Basil Burger". But, actually, it is a real name, and it's the name of our main character. And I'm going to tell you why. Well, I'm not, because that would take up a whole extra book. But I am going to tell you how to say it. So after three, say with me... One, two, three:

COM-TON VAAL-AAN-SE — You've got it!

BRAVO VALANCE
Horribly horrible older
brother. Horrible.



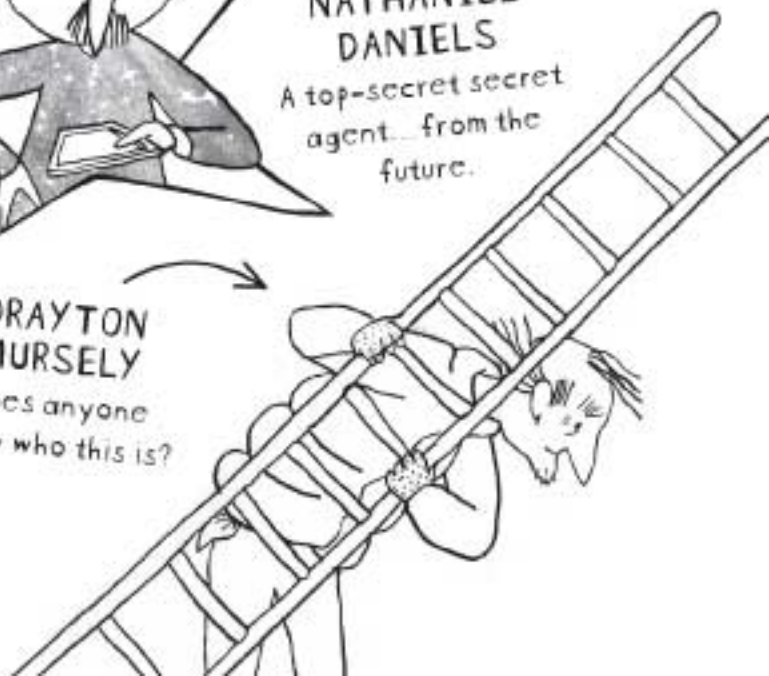
**MR AND MRS
VALANCE**
Mum and Dad.



**SAMUEL
NATHANIEL
DANIELS**

A top-secret secret
agent... from the
future.

**DRAYTON
MURSELY**
Does anyone
know who this is?



The Beginning*



*** WARNING! NOT ACTUALLY THE BEGINNING. REPEAT, THIS IS NOT ACTUALLY THE BEGINNING!**

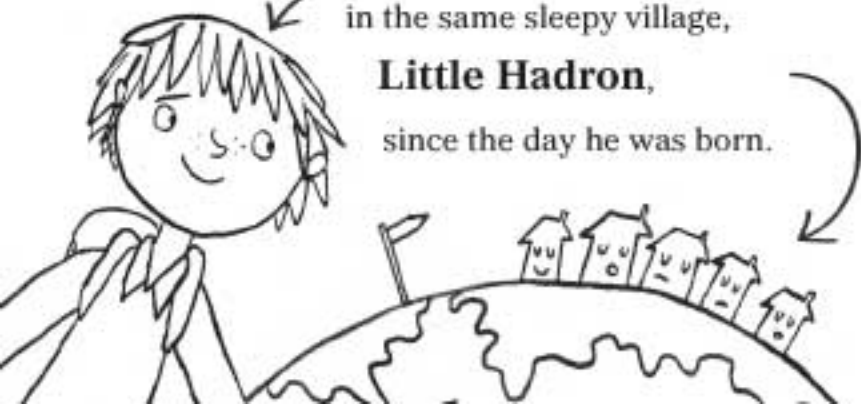
Well, it's the beginning of the book but not really the beginning of the story. I'd say more like a bit near the middle. Look, I'll be honest, it's complicated but hey, that's what you get when you deal with time travel, right?

My advice is just strap yourself down and enjoy the ride.

Sometimes just when
you think you've seen it all, life
has a funny way of pulling down
your trousers and popping
ice cubes in your " " " " " "



COMPTON VALANCE had lived
in the same sleepy village,
Little Hadron,
since the day he was born.



In fact, Compton had been born in the same house that his father had been born in.

Actually, come to think of it, for as long as anyone in **Little Hadron** could remember, a member of the Valance family had eaten eggs at **Morlock Cottage.**



So, as you can imagine, it came as something of a **surprise** to Compton when he found himself in the kitchen of his **OWN** house having strawberry jam



smashed into his

by a small baby.

FACE



And, if you can imagine the amount of
surprise caused by a jam-smearing baby,



just picture the look on
Compton's face when
he realized that the
baby was actually
his own father.

But that is all in the future, well the past
actually, but we'll get to it eventually.

Confused?

Me too but in a good way, right?

Okay, I tell you what, let's start

at
the
proper
beginning.