

# The Superpower



Nothing is so strong as gentleness,  
nothing so gentle as real strength  
*St Francis de Sales*

## 'Adventures of Alex and Joe' - The Superpower

'The Adventures of Alex and Joe' exists as a 'micro enterprise' under the umbrella of APC Support who have expanded their primary mission of offering a sanctuary/safe place for children needing occasional care into creating a stage via the identifying and nurturing of talents for those who aspire towards making their unique mark in the world.

Stories have been inspired by Alex and Joe, written by Alex's dad (Brian) and illustrated by family friend (Mike Meade). Photographs by Alyssa Crowe and Casey Finlay.

The twin story booklets are available via:

<https://adventuresofalexandjoe.godaddysites.com/>

<https://apcsupport.com.au> Email: [admin@apcsupport.com.au](mailto:admin@apcsupport.com.au)



@apc.support



[www.facebook.com/AdventuresofAlexandJoe](http://www.facebook.com/AdventuresofAlexandJoe)

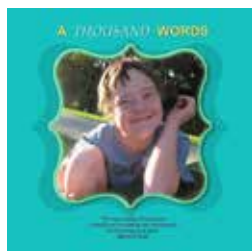
Profits from sale will benefit further adventures for Alex and Joe in addition to support for nation-wide (and beyond) Down Syndrome Associations.

We wish to acknowledge and thank the children of the APC extended family for their enthusiastic participation in the Superpower story. Their affection and natural inclusiveness give Alex another 'home away from home'. We are grateful to their parents for creating such wonderful kids and for their own genuine endorsement of what we do.

Heartfelt thanks to Alex's Uncle Phil – always attentive, always generous and to Darryl Steff for his vision, insights and his readiness to share them.

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other titles in this book series:



**A Thousand Words**



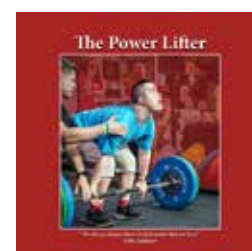
**The Biggest Wish**



**The Elephant Whisperer**



**Tough Kids**



**The Power Lifter**



Curious kids look twice as they walk past Alex.



Some turn around  
to catch  
another  
glance.

Others go further and ask him a question.

“What’s your name?”



Alex just smiles.







**That's when Alyssa steps in.**

**She is his support worker,  
dance partner,  
bowling opponent,  
co-vocalist,  
believer and advocate.**

**“His name is Alexander”**

“Can he talk?” they usually ask.

“He can say some words but he often chooses not to”

“Why?”

“You’ll have to ask him”

“But he won’t say  
anything back”

“That’s the thing.

I will tell you  
another thing though.

Alex has a superpower”





A hush descends on the small group of curious kids.

They look at one another.

They look back at Alex.

Their eyes are wider than before.



“Wow” they whisper “What’s his superpower?”

“You’ll have to ask him”

“But he won’t say anything back”

“That’s probably true. It means you’ll have to wait and maybe get to know him before you learn about his superpower.”

“That’s so cool” the kids echo in unison and reveal a new-found respect for this boy without words.





Thanks to the genius of Alyssa,  
Alex has got these kids thinking ...

more open to unfamiliar worlds

and less fearful ...

That's his superpower



## The Superpower: Questions:

1. Most kids hang out with those who are like them. That's understandable. They speak the same language, have similar interests, play the same games, watch the same movies etc. So along comes somebody like Alexander who doesn't speak – who doesn't really fit in. It was a challenge for the other kids to know what to do.

Have you ever had a challenge like that? – maybe with someone who comes from another country and who doesn't speak your language or who has had life experiences very different from yours?

Or someone like Alex?

2. These kids were interested enough to ask questions like “what's your name?”. When they didn't get an answer, what happened?
3. Alyssa is Alex's support worker. What do you think she does for Alex? How did she answer the questions of the young ones?
4. Alyssa then said something that changed everything. What did you think about that?
5. What is a Superpower? Do you know anybody with a 'Superpower'? Is having a Superpower the same thing as being a Superhero?
6. Can you talk about Alex's Superpower. How does it affect you?
7. If a Superpower can be described as something you do well – something that has a positive impact on others ... what's yours?



