

# The Petit Proust Questionnaire

from Owlkids Books

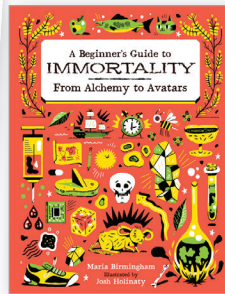
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## Meet illustrator Josh Holinaty

**JOSH HOLINATY** is an illustrator whose works include public art commissions and book, magazine, and newspaper illustrations. He has taught illustration at Edmonton Digital Arts College and has illustrated

one previous book with Owlkids: *It's Catching*. Originally from Alberta, he now lives in Toronto, Ontario. Visit his website at [www.holinaty.com](http://www.holinaty.com) and find him on Twitter as @joshholinaty.



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Is it possible to live forever? *A Beginner's Guide to Immortality: From Alchemy to Avatars* takes readers on a fast-paced tour of various wacky and wise methods humans have used to try prolonging their lives, from ancient immortality elixirs and quests for a fountain of youth to modern-day research into cryogenics and robotics.

### When you were a kid, what was your favorite thing to do?

I loved drawing when I was a kid, but that easily tied with playing video games. In fact, I would draw many of my favorite video game characters!

### What did you most dislike doing when you were a child?

Come to think of it, I didn't really dislike anything in particular — except maybe that feeling of doom I felt every Sunday because the weekend was coming to an end.

### As a child, where did you dream of living?

I was pretty happy growing up in Grande Prairie, Alberta, and never thought much of the outside world. That curiosity hit me in my late teens, and Europe became my fascination.

### What did you think you were good at when you were a kid?

I was pretty good at drawing, playing video games, and being a class clown. But not a disruptive class clown. Just a general goofball who was still productive!

### When you were a kid in school, what did you look for in a friend?

Do you like being funny, drawing, and playing video games? Then we can be best friends! In fact, I still have the same best friend since first grade. We still draw, play video games, and make each other laugh.

### What did you want to be when you grew up?

I remember considering being an artist when I was in fifth grade. I think it was because one of my teachers suggested it. I guess I took the suggestion seriously!



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## What was your favorite book as a child?

I loved the Where's Waldo? books. In fact, I still do. There was this other book from my youth that I've been searching for, but I just can't remember the name. It was a beautifully illustrated book about a family of boogymen, filled with gross booger-y greens and browns. One day I'll find it again.

## What is your favorite pastime now?

I guess I haven't really grown up; I still love drawing, playing video games and comedy!

## What do you find an absolute chore?

Hanging up clean laundry. I swear it's impossible.

## If you could live anywhere, where would you go?

I do really, really, really love living in Canada. But if I had the chance, I'd live somewhere in Europe, like maybe Belgium, Holland, or Sweden.

## What is the one talent you wish you had?

I wish I was a really talented computer programmer so I could create my own video games from scratch. That would be incredi-fun!

## What makes a good friend?

Someone who is ready to listen, can make you laugh, likes yummy food, and will help you lift heavy things when you have to move!

## If you weren't an author or illustrator, what job would you have?

That's a tough question, as I've really been drawing my whole life. I know it's very related to what I already do, but the idea of being an art director at a video game studio sounds like it would be a blast!

## What children's books have caught your attention lately?

They aren't necessarily new children's books, but I love the works of author/illustrator Tomi Ungerer. His book *Moon Man* is a perfect example. Loose and wild and colorful and weird and fun!

## If you had to have a motto, what would it be?

Find a way to truly care about what you're doing. It's hard to make good work when you don't care.