



Sexland Adventures

性星冒險記

Author: Lucas Paixão **Illustrator:** Lucas Paixão **Publisher:** Dala Publishing

Date: 11/2023 **Right's contacts:** bft.children.comics@moc.gov.tw

432 pages | 12.8 x 18.05 cm **Volume:** 1 (END)

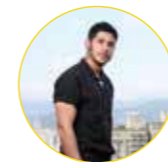
Award: 2024 The 15th Golden Comic Awards, Comic of the year

BFT2.0 Translator: Jenna Tang and Michelle Kuo

This comic book features nine short stories, each with a semi-autobiographical narrative. From his journey as a comic artist to his observations of Taiwan from a South American perspective, artist Lucas Paixão vividly portrays the desires of both sexes in a colorful and dynamic style.

In the titular story, “Sexland Adventures,” a couple accidentally stumbles into a surreal place called Sexland. In “Picasso Obsession,” the protagonist shares a name with the famous artist, allowing Lucas to present his unique interpretation of art. His youthful addiction to graffiti leads to misunderstandings and homelessness until he meets a kindred spirit named Lucy. In the tale “Have You Had Tea?”, passionate encounters unfold between the female protagonist, Qiu Qiu, and the Bubble Tea Man, inspired by Taiwan’s beloved bubble tea.

Lucas, a Brazilian comic artist who embraces Taiwanese culture, infuses his work with the passionate and uninhibited spirit of his home country. The proportions of the human body and the dynamic depictions of male and female figures reflect the tropical charm of growing up in South America. His refined drawing skills, particularly in clothing design, showcase his distinctive personal aesthetic.



Lucas Paixão

Born in Salvador, Brazil, Lucas Paixão graduated from the Graphic Design program at Salvador University (Laureate International Universities). He worked as a graphic designer in Salvador and Rio de Janeiro before coming to Taiwan in 2014 to study at the Graduate Institute of Fine Arts at National Taipei University of the Arts. He earned a master’s degree in 2018 and held a solo exhibition titled *Body Talks* in the same year.

His comic works include *Binlang Beauty* (licensed in Brazil and Turkey), *CURTA! Short Comics*, and the anthology *Rainbow Apartment*.

In 2013, he won the Outstanding Prize at the 10th Biennial of Graphic Design, ADG Brasil. In 2016, he received the Bronze Award in the Original Competition of Eastern Publishing for *Magic Pen* and the Potential Award in the Second Original Comic Contest of Comico for *Binlang Beauty*. In 2022, he was nominated for the First Original IP Top Ranking for *TEA’s Me*, *The Rise of the Fancy Bubble Tea: The Taste of First Love Gives Me Trembling Pleasure!*

From Brazil to Taiwan, Modern-Day Fables on Gender, Beauty, and Love: On *Sexland Adventures*

by Ni Jui Hong

I first met Lucas, the author and illustrator of *Sexland Adventures*, in the scene portrayed in “Not So Simple Art Exchange,” one of the nine short stories in his book. Each scene feels steeped in a strange familiarity. His superb depictions recreate spaces with uncanny accuracy, though his portrayal of the art department building makes it seem even more enigmatic than I remember. Yet, the scent of oil paint and dust still lingers in my memory.

The mysterious and beautiful foreign exchange student in his story is, in a way, a reflection of himself. I remember how, in a

clay modeling class, Lucas once sculpted a life-sized figure that he then left behind—it now lies somewhere behind the art department, overgrown with moss.

Each story feels like a modern-day fable, weaving whimsical, almost childlike dialogue with the often harsh realities of the adult world.

What stays with me is his frequent conversations about gender, Brazil, and Taiwan, themes reflected in this book. “Orange Boy” features blue contact lenses as a premise, observing how, in both Brazil and Taiwan, people with blue eyes and fair skin are praised. Both countries prescribe an unattainable beauty standard that people feel obligated to pursue. “Cola Milk” started as a story he casually shared, one I found ridiculous at

first. It wasn’t until years later that I read the full version and was surprised by how much I liked it. The desperation of teenage girls trying to fit in—it’s a kind of panic we’ve all experienced. In contrast, “Still There” stands out for its quiet, understated storytelling. Despite its visual rhythm, it powerfully captures the sense of a woman completely powerless against life.

But my personal favorite remains “Picasso Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder.” It’s a story about loving the person who hurts you most, and its ending still sends shivers down my spine. Lucas drew this back in Brazil. It blends erotic art with his passion for calligraphy. I encouraged him to continue creating in the way that felt most authentic to him, assuring him that comics, too, could be a form of contemporary art. Soon after, I became his first female model for his body painting comics.

In Professor Chen Kaihuang’s class,

Lucas often shared his anxieties, to which I related. Unlike most of our classmates, both of us had been freelancing as artists, juggling commercial projects to make ends meet. This practical experience set us apart in an academic world that prized pure, ambiguous expression.

What I admire most about Lucas is how effortlessly he turns everyday moments into entire comic storyboards. What I cherish most in Lucas’s work is its innocence. Each story feels like a modern-day fable, weaving whimsical, almost childlike dialogue with the often harsh realities of the adult world.

I hope Lucas never stops drawing, now and forever.

Ni Jui Hong is an artist and author of Fairy Daily Adventure.

This is an edited essay from the book’s forward.



MNNN
....



UNH
....



