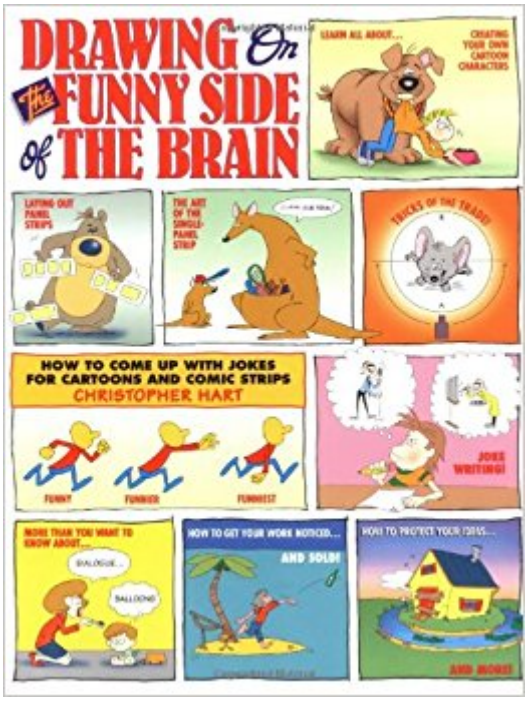
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Drawing On The Funny Side Of The Brain : How To Come Up With Jokes For Cartoons And Comic Strips



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Synopsis

Teaching cartoonists how to evoke laughs is the latest great idea to come from a best-selling author who always knows just what readers want. Aspiring cartoonists and seasoned professionals all face the same problem: coming up with a steady stream of jokes for their drawings. But there's a science to funny art, and this book's complete course shows just how to create comic panels and strips that get laughs, setup right through to punch lines. The essential tools of joke writing are outlined: visual stereotypes of comic teaming (fat/skinny, short/tall): setting up a character's agenda, then putting up obstacles to create conflict; action that brings the surprise. Other valuable guidance includes whether to find resource materials for jokes, plus tips for drawing comic lettering styles and dialogue balloons.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.4 x 11 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #650,013 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Cartooning > Comics #155 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Cartooning > Anime & Cartoons #1826 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Comic Strips

Customer Reviews

Hart, a regular contributor to Mad Magazine and a comedy screenwriter, has produced a manual with equal emphasis on the art of cartooning and the art of comedy. He has the requisite chapters on how to draw funny characters, but he comes into his own when he analyses pacing and rhythm, set-up and punch lines, and the differences between dramatic and comedic scenes. Certain words, he maintains, are ordinary and certain ones funny (e.g., fat is ordinary, bloated is funny, four is ordinary, five is funny?as are all odd numbers). This and Robin Hall's The Cartoonist's Workbook: Drawing, Writing Gags, Selling (LJ 11/15/97) are the two best such books available.Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 7^-12. Several recent books have dealt with cartooning, among them Al Bohl's overview Guide to Cartooning , which explores the art form's history as well as its practice. Hart, who keeps his eye on commercial potential, narrows his focus to one aspect of cartooning--creating single and multipanel comic strips. He begins with some helpful cartoon-art how-tos, but it's the subtleties about joke writing, pacing, framing, and dialogue he includes that make his book stand out. The graphics, many in color, are teamed closely with small blocks of text and captions to get the message across. Hart's swaggering wit occasionally gets in the way, but usually not long enough to stop the flow of information. To be sure, Hart makes it seem easier than it is, but teenage art students who would like to see their work in the Sunday funnies would do well to start here. Tips on becoming a professional cartoonist and some helpful resources round out the text. Point interested teens to Scott McCloud's excellent adult book Understanding Comics (1993) for an even deeper view. Stephanie Zvirin

I found this book to be an excellent resource for aspiring cartoonists. Most other cartooning books I've looked at seem to say "Cartooning is a terrible career! You'll never make money!" or "Give up hope now! If you can't draw like me, you'll never succeed!" But Chris Hart's book is the exact opposite -- very informative, easy-to-follow, and overall very helpful. He also tells you where to put emphasis when designing a strip and developing characters. And most importantly, he gives tips on how to come up with ideas (funny ones), not just how to draw. Hart doesn't make you feel like his way is the only way, as other cartooning books do -- this book leaves aspiring cartoonists with a lot of hope!

I have several of the Hart books and they are very good. He gives a good overall foundation on how to create characters. However, he makes no mention in the book on drawing tools and supplies. Perhaps he covered that in another book. He also didn't delve much into exploring different styles which is probably important to people just starting out. Be nice to have shown some other cartoonist's work besides his. He is obviously Disney trained which is fine but examining other people's work would have been a plus. He is a very fine draftsman and I admire his work. I would recommend this book.

I'm always on the lookout for cartoon illustrations to inspire me to paint. I'm so happy I purchased this little gem because it is packed with whimsical drawings! Great for young and old! Delivery was

quick and the book was in excellent condition even though it was used.

Checked this book out from my local library and loved it so much I had to have a copy of my own. Christopher Hart cartoons in a style similar to my own so it's great going through these pages and adding new techniques to my arsenal. This book is perfect for all ages.

Chris Hart's books are great educational tools for anyone who wants to draw. I highly recommend him and Bruce Blitz as your go to for all beginning cartoonists!

Well written guide to making cartoons, soup to nuts. Fun read .

Most cartooning books are, quite frankly, crap. There are a very few exceptions, This book is one of them! Hart covers many aspects of cartooning, from coming up with jokes, to character design, to design tips. If you are learning to cartoon, or just want a few pointers from an expert, this is the book to read! Another excellent one is How To Draw Comics the Marvel Way. These two books should be on every cartoonist's shelf

I still learn something new when I read it again. Easy to understand, the quality of the paper is great. There are lots of images, not a full-of-words boring book. I really love it.

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