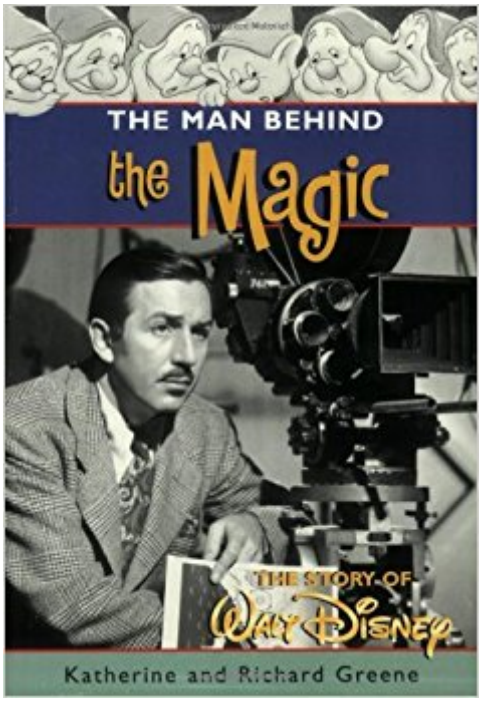
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# The Man Behind The Magic: The Story Of Walt Disney




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## Synopsis

For generations he set the standard for family entertainment. His films--Snow White, Cinderella, Bambi--are perennial classics. Now, Walt Disney’s remarkable story is told for children from his childhood on a Missouri farm to the building of the Disney empire. 8-page color insert. Balck-and-white photographs. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #801,383 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #146 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Biographies > Performing Arts #147 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Film #180 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > Cartooning

## Customer Reviews

Grade 6-12-- This interesting biography portrays Disney’s life as one of vision, disappointment, and phenomenal success. He built an entertainment empire that began with innovative animation techniques and continued, even after his death, with the construction of Walt Disney World and the Epcot Center. This young man from Missouri had a tendency to push both himself and his staff, which led to serious personnel and financial problems in his rocky road to success. This chronological biography documents his career, concentrating more on the man than his "magic." In contrast, Barbara Ford’s book (Walker, 1989), capitalizes on the Disney creations, giving more in-depth information about Mickey Mouse, Snow White, Donald Duck, and gang. Both works present a true-to-life picture of the genius of this talented man. However, the black-and-white photographs are more extensive and interesting in this work, and an additional eight pages of full-color photographs from animated movies further enhance it. --Judie Porter, Media Services Center, Portsmouth School Department, RICopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers

to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Behind the Magic is so dead on! Great book that really makes you think differently about a man that did so much thru his vision.

Great quality book. I was impressed with the quality and the low cost of this book. Well worth the purchase.

very good

As described and great price. Thanks

The book was delivered in great shape! Was so glad. My son loved it and I plan on getting him another Disney book sometime this year. :)

This book is honestly one of my favorite nonfiction books I have ever read. I happen to be a Disney freak, and this just made me even more so. It is practically a complete detailed account of everything that ever happened to him, and it seems like nothing is left out, good or bad. Nothing is too sugarcoated or bashed, and it just seems to be an unbiased account of his life and accomplishments. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s amazing to read about what he had to go through to reach success and to find out just how many people helped him along the way. Walt was viewed in very different lights by family and workers, but it seemed like the authors left none of these opinions out. There were a few parts of the book that seemed a little slow, but were quickly countered with a quicker pace that balanced out nicely. I actually could not put the book down. The interspersed photos and quotes at the beginning of each section made it even better, and I would recommend this book to anyone even remotely interesting in Walt Disney or his characters.

This was an excellent read. The language was accessible and clearly communicated. The book provided all the essential facts in Walt Disney’s life. The author revealed strengths and weaknesses of the entertainment icon. One interesting item was the symbiotic relationship between Walt and his brother Roy. Roy handled the finances of the budding empire. He was pragmatic and practical while Disney was a bold experimenter. He was a risk-taker at the cutting edge of innovations. The men clashed at times, but respected each other and balanced each other out.Disney was a man of

contrasts. He was a tireless worker and a demanding employer. He could be harsh with his workers, but he fostered a family environment as well. He is presented as a caring family man. His daughters adored him and his wife was devoted to him. This book covers his family life and his career equally well. Disney was victimized by some shady employers early in his career. His character Oswald was stolen outright. As a result, Disney had to be more guarded and secretive about his work.Mickey Mouse catapulted him to the top. However, it is the versatility of the man that impresses the most. He was a visionary who was at the forefront of technological changes. His film "Steamboat Willie" captivated audiences by utilizing the brand-new sound with movies innovated by Al Jolson. Disney jumped into television early on. He went beyond animation into intricate production of movies with actors and actresses. His vision of an entertainment complex was essential to his legacy. He was able to connect with families and anticipate their desires to bring the magic of Disney to life. The public became full participants. Disney was a perfectionist and the smallest detail wasn't left to chance. Everything he did had to be of the top quality.The book has credibility as there is some criticism of the man at times. It was outlined how he had disputes with labor. He could be rash and impulsive. His criticisms could be blunt when it came to his workers. One issue that was mentioned in passing was the controversy involving the film "Song of the South." This film was (and still is) vilified by the African-American community. I remember watching this on TV as a kid and being mesmerized by the combination of animation and live acting. I completely missed the racial element. As an adult, I understand how this film could inflame people's passions. The film is so controversial that it isn't available for commercial purchase. I would have liked to see more detail about Disney's interaction with racial issues. This is one area that wasn't explored in the book. Otherwise, it is a fine biography with a lot of basic details about his life. It is a quick read and a compelling narrative.

Excellent biography of a complicated genius. This book goes into great detail on the personal life of Walt Disney, from his childhood through his death. It also has a lot of great details about his interactions with his brother Roy and his wife and children. It was a fast read and I learned a lot of new things on a topic that I thought I already understood well. I would highly recommend.

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