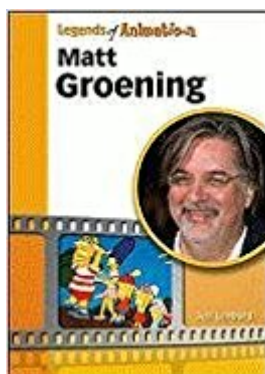


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# Matt Groening: From Spitballs To Springfield (Legends Of Animation)



## Synopsis

Matt Groening is a cartoonist, animator, and producer best known for creating *The Simpsons*, television's longest-running primetime animated series. Although it debuted as a series of cartoon shorts for another television show in 1987, *The Simpsons* launched on its own in 1989, making the dysfunctional family of Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, and Maggie famous almost overnight. At the time, Groening was already a successful cartoonist, whose *Life in Hell* comic strip appeared in underground newspapers and book collections. *The Simpsons* became a cultural phenomenon, and Groening's characters soon appeared in a wide range of products and venues. Groening went on to create the animated science-fiction series *Futurama*, launched a *Simpsons*-based publishing company called Bongo Comics, and produced *The Simpsons Movie*. Matt Groening describes the life and career of one of animation's most successful artists, known for his unique drawing style and quirky sense of humor. Chapters include: *Drawn to Weirdness* *Life in Hell* *Hitting a Homer...D'oh!* *The Makings of a Television Classic* *Spinning Off into the Future*.

## Book Information

Library Binding: 134 pages

Publisher: Chelsea House Pub (Library) (June 24, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1604138386

ISBN-13: 978-1604138382

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.5 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #2,438,903 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in [Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Art > Cartooning](#) #92 in [Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Art > Biographies](#) #435 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > Cartooning](#)

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 6 - 12

## Customer Reviews

This new, first-ever biography series chronicles the amazing lives and work of eight icons of animation who are among the most honored and recognized from the worlds of film and television animation and whose classic characters are known and loved around the world today. Each title brings to life the mirth and magic of these cartoon masters and goes behind the scenes discussing

their personal and educational background, early work, styles and influences, trials and tribulations, professional achievements, key films and television productions, origins of their characters, innovations pioneered, and impact on popular culture. This series is sure to interest animation fans of all ages and artists pursuing careers in the lively arts themselves.

Jeff Lenburg is an award-winning author, celebrity biographer, and nationally acknowledged expert on animated cartoons. He has written nearly 30 books--including such acclaimed histories of animation as *Who's Who in Animated Cartoons* and *The Great Cartoon Directors*. His *Facts On File* book *The Encyclopedia of Animated Cartoons* is considered to be the definitive reference for animation fans. His books have been nominated for several awards, including the American Library Association's "Best Nonfiction Award" and the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association's Gold Medallion Award for "Best Autobiography/Biography." Lenburg lives in Arizona.

Soooo it was an expensive book, but I needed it for a school project. Nothing too magical inside, but it's a good summary of Matt and his creativity that's led to some great TV shows.

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