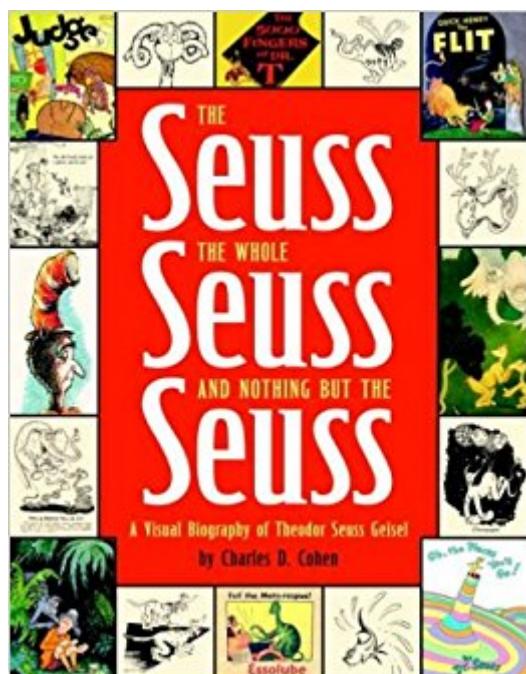


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# The Seuss, The Whole Seuss And Nothing But The Seuss: A Visual Biography Of Theodor Seuss Geisel



## Synopsis

Theodor Seuss Geisel, creator of Horton the Elephant, the Grinch, the Cat in the Hat, and a madcap menagerie of the best-loved children's characters of all time, stands alone as the preeminent figure of children's literature. But Geisel was a private man who was happier at the drawing table than he was across from any reporter or would-be biographer. Under the thoughtful scrutiny of Charles D. Cohen, Geisel's lesser known works yield valuable insights into the imaginative and creative processes of one of the 20th century's most original thinkers.

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## Customer Reviews

Theodor Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss, was one of the titans of 20th century American children's literature--a legacy that shows no sign of diminishing in the 21st. But such epochal fare as The Cat in the Hat and enduring, whimsical characters as Horton, The Grinch and Sam-I-Am represent but one corner of the late writer/artist's vast artistic universe. Other Geisel biographies have detailed his remarkable life and vibrant art, but Massachusetts dentist/Seussiana collector nonpareil Charles D. Cohen serves up a "visual biography" that's part lovingly illustrated coffee table book and part insightful analysis of a creative mind and the various historical and cultural forces that shaped it. Cohen richly illustrates his compelling tribute with key, telling artifacts from his own massive collection. No corner of the author/artist's life has escaped Cohen's obsessive collector's eye, including: turn-of the-century bottles of the Geisel family brewery, Geisel's teenage writings and illustrations, later work that spans careers in cartooning advertising (successful campaigns for Esso, Flit and others), wartime propaganda (including uncredited work on the Oscar-winning Hitler Lives!)

and Hollywood (The 5000 Finger of Dr. T). Indeed, in Cohen's thoughtful, lavishly illustrated analysis, Geisel's latter-day incarnation as children's author supreme was but the logical distillation of a lifetime devoted to wit, wordplay and whimsical art. --Jerry McCulley

Although Cohen covers some of the same territory Philip Nel traversed in Dr. Seuss: An American Icon [BKL F 1 04], this abundantly illustrated profile of the creator of Horton, the Grinch, and the Cat in the Hat has a more popular readership in mind. Crisp full-color illustrations on every page of the coffee-table volume will pull readers into Cohen's accessible recap of Theodore Geisel's career, which is enhanced with just enough personal information to bring everything together. Cohen doesn't ignore Geisel's writing (there's even a selection of early Geisel from his high-school paper), but his real focus is the art. And what a selection he has gathered: clear reproductions of posters, book illustrations, newspaper cartoons, and book pages, with intriguing background information that allows readers to follow the artist's varied careers (political cartoonist, filmmaker, children's book author, and a few more, too) as well as the evolution of some of his most popular book characters. Fun for browsers and Seussophiles alike. Stephanie ZvirinCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

This book is not all about reiterating the Seuss stories we've already read, but instead an objective well researched pictoral and written account of the man so many love. Cohen does a great job researching the possible meanings of Geisel's cartoons and later texts. There are many, many Judge magazine and other political cartoons that are absolutely hilarious, and absolutely adult in nature (similar to a lot of his "childrens" stories). I highly recommend this book to anyone who likes to drop into a chapter then skip to another at an opposite end of the book because they are somewhat independent although chronological, it is easy to skip around to the parts you feel like reading for that day. Also, at 400 pages full color, who can pass up the bargain? f.y.i. This biography seems to coincide a lot with \*In Search of Dr. Seuss\* the movie that just came out in dvd

As we celebrate the centennial of Ted Geisel's birth, material is appearing that looks at the influence of Dr. Seuss on generations of American readers. Dr. Cohen brings us what is obviously a labor of love. Drawing inspiration on his extensive collection of Seussiana, he has produced one of the most lavishly illustrated and broadly scoped book on the life and works of the good doctor. Cohen reaches back to Geisel's school days and illustrates the development of the artist's style and humor. Continually he will point out how pieces done at various points in Geisel's life can be traced as part

of the development of what would become some of his trademark images and beloved characters, including the Grinch. Instead of focusing heavily on Seuss's books, he draws attention to the vast collection of other artwork that was drawn, mostly before the books even came into being. Seuss's work as a humorist, advertising artist, sculptor, and cartoonist (political and otherwise) are shown here as he continued to improve and hone his craft. The end results are the books that are so beloved to multitudes of people who were lucky enough to grow up with Seuss in the house. The book would be worth it for the pictures alone, but the accompanying text helps get below the surface of many of the pieces, and to tie them together into a artist's whole output. Even if you only look at the pictures and read the captions to the pictures, you will get a whole new appreciation of Dr. Seuss's work over the years. If I any complaint, it is that in some ways the books almost get shorted too much in this narrative, and too often the captions for the illustrations are repetitive to the text. But these are minor quibbles that in no way detract from the glorious whole. For the Seuss lover, and for the casual reader, this book brings the reader a whole new appreciation of a beloved illustrator's work and the genius that was Dr. Seuss.

I purchased several Seuss Books at once. I had also seen some of his works in a Gallery which I really fell in love with. The Biography is special because of the lack of information that is really out and about Seuss. The many things that startaling about his art and his career and the number of books he wrote. I have enjoyed this and am not disappointed in my purchase.

Love Dr. Seuss! Thanks to Mr. Cohen for teaching me more about him and for bringing us "new" books from lost manuscripts!

i love Dr Seuss artwork, not his kids books, some are cool, but his World War II times in advertising, and the one of a kind art that he used cartooning his way throughout this book. it has his paintings and sculptures on a few pages. the book of his art work i have also bought. this is were i started getting a sense of fun in his work before the kids took over. and he always had a cool slant on things even early on in his life. very creative and entertaining.

Book is perfect and super fast delivery.

Still reading it, but love it thus far. Arrived in great shape and is full of great information about this marvelously creative individual.

Wonderful adult resource. Very well researched.

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