



# The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss

By Kathleen Krull

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Award-winning author Kathleen Krull zeros in on the formative first 22 years of the life of Ted Geisel. This is the first picture book biography of Dr. Seuss, written especially for his young fans who want to know what made him tick. The animals in the zoo that his father ran and his fondness for drawing them, the injustices he suffered as the child of German immigrants, and his inherent sense of humor all fed into the imagination of this boy. He was a square peg in a round hole until he found that he could make a living doing exactly what he pleased—doodling and writing funny things about the world as he saw it.

The last section of the book outlines the important events in his adult life. In addition to the evocative paintings by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher, the book is profusely decorated with art from Dr. Seuss books.

*From the Hardcover edition.*

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Young doodlers and dreamers of the world, take heart--the famous Dr. Seuss, creator of Whos and Sneetches, was a doodler and dreamer, too. Kathleen Krull's engaging picture-book biography of Ted Geisel, the real Dr. Seuss, takes us from his early childhood on Fairfield Street in Springfield, Massachusetts, to the time when he's 22 years old in Greenwich Village and just starting to think he might make a go of it as a person who draws flying cows. Krull tells a lively story, carefully including details that help us understand how Seuss became Seuss, from playground injustice (Geisel was a German American and World War I loomed large) to his love for *Krazy Kat* comics.

Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher, who also illustrated Seuss's *My Many Colored Days*, cast Seuss's childhood in a nostalgic light with lovely, old-fashioned paintings. A four-page section in the back picks up Seuss's story again, taking us to 1937 when he launches his children's book career with *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street* and all the way to his death in 1991. A complete list of Seuss's books and recommendations for further research closes this fascinating look at one of America's most beloved creators of children's books. (Ages 8 and older) --*Karin Snelson*

#### From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 3-5, younger for reading aloud. Before Geisel became Dr. Seuss, he was a boy who "feasted on books and was wild about animals." This introductory sentence begins a delightful picture-book biography about Geisel that chronicles how he became an innovative writer and illustrator beloved by readers young and old. Born in 1904 to a mother who enjoyed reading and a father who worked at the zoo in Springfield, Massachusetts, Geisel spent his days doodling, hanging out with friends, and generally fooling around. Yet there were also some difficult moments. His German heritage made him a target for teasing at the advent of World War I; he was also a rule breaker and was told by his teacher that he would never get anywhere with his art. The book ends when Geisel, already a published cartoonist, is 22, living in Greenwich Village, and looking forward to a bright future. An extended author's note details how Geisel became Dr. Seuss and discusses a number of his works. Krull's pithy text is extended by full-page paintings that glow with the memory of yesteryear and capture the mix of humor and poignancy that comes with trying to fit in. Spot art from Geisel's own books enlivens the text pages. *Ilene Cooper*

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#### From the Inside Flap

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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Robert Crawford:**

Book is definitely written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important factor to bring us around the world. Next to that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A publication The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss will make you to be smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that open or reading a new book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they might be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suitable book with you?

#### **Patricia Howland:**

On this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to possess a look at some books. On the list of books in the top listing in your reading list is definitely The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking way up and review this publication you can get many advantages.

#### **Virginia Hause:**

As a college student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's internal or real their passion. They just do what the trainer want, like asked to go to the library. They go to there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss can make you sense more interested to read.

#### **Paul Lopez:**

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