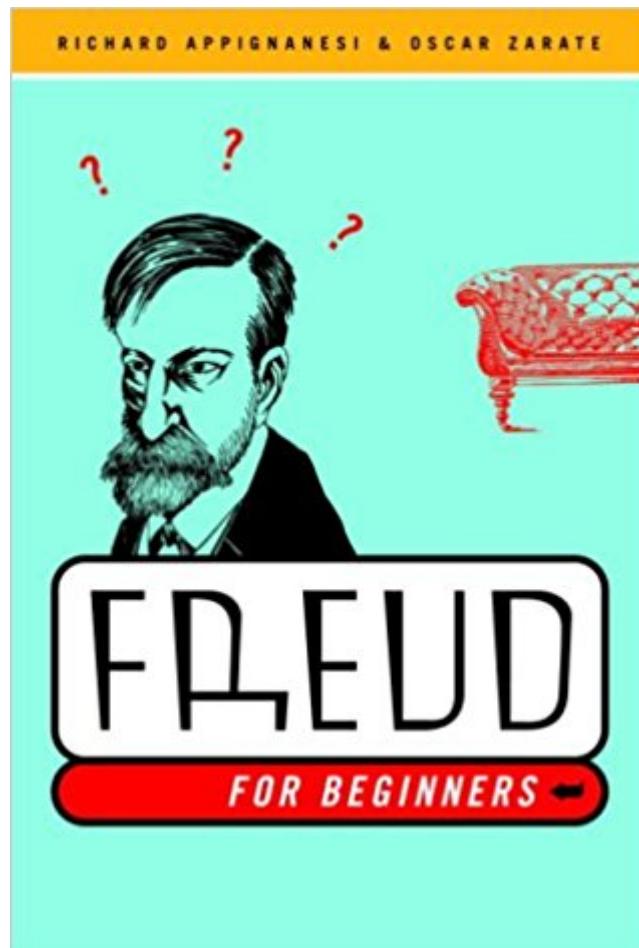


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Freud For Beginners



Synopsis

The Beginner Books -- "Their cartoon format and irreverent wit make difficult ideas accessible and entertaining." -- Newsday Everything you need to know about neurosis, libido, ego, and id -- but somehow it slipped your mind. Freud for Beginners is a perfect introduction to the life and thought of the man whose discovery of psychoanalysis revolutionized our attitudes towards mental illness, religion, sex, and culture. This documentary cartoon book plunges us into the world of late-nineteenth-century Vienna in which Freud grew up. We explore his early background in science, his work as a therapist, his encounter with cocaine, and his theories on the unconscious, dreams, the Oedipus Complex, and sexuality. We meet his family, his friend and enemies, and his patients -- The Rat Man, Anna O., Little Hans -- and we get an insider's view as the psychoanalytic movement is launched. The zany art and probing text do an extraordinary job of simplifying Freud without trivializing him.

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Customer Reviews

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RICHARD APPIGNANESI is a novelist, poet, and art historian, born in Montreal, Canada, in 1940 and currently living in London. He received a Ph.D. in the Social History of Art from the University of Sussex and is one of the founding members and directors of the Writers and Readers Publishing Cooperative. OSCAR ZARATE is a Latin American illustrator and designer, born in 1942 and now also living in London. He has been the art director of several advertising agencies in Buenos Aires, and has also designed and illustrated three children's books. His posters and cover designs have won numerous prizes in Europe and Argentina.

The 'For Beginners' series has multiple authors/illustrators, and can be variable in the quality, clarity, and in-depth analysis of its subject matter. I have a few other installments in this series, such as the title 'Einstein For Beginners', 'Karl Marx For Beginners', and 'Existentialism For Beginners', and all of these have been excellent, in both text and illustrations. Therefore, the expectations bar had been set fairly high, and fortunately in reading others' reviews of various 'For Beginners' titles, I have a more realistic expectation now, and this particular title is not on a par with the aforementioned ones. It does not do justice to such a great thinker as Freud, and descends into the lurid and sensational in its explication of his theories instead of presenting them in a respectful and balanced manner. A missed opportunity on a massive scale.

Top notch. I'm versed in Freud, and I find this a compelling read on its own. The pics and text cross reference each other at odd, interesting points, suggesting highly competent author-illustrator partnership. It's really fantastic. When I have kids (late-teens) in my class who poo-poo Freud because the only thing they have ever heard is the term "penis envy", I toss this book their way and encourage them to absorb what Freud's who project was before judging it on its parts. Super great, accessible, etc.

really really cheap

This goes a bit past 'comic book' fare but doesn't deeply address the whole of subject's work. It will give you a good start on a more in depth study of Freud. This whole series is that way, presenting sometimes complex subjects in an easy to understand way. I bought a couple of these (Trotsky and Capitalism, I think) years ago when I was in college. They are humorous but get their point across. I think the books in the series are out of print now but often available through . Their information is factual and I still pick one up every now and then.

I got this book for my daughter, who had developed an interest in Freud from a high school psychology class. In her words, it's "really good!" With engaging illustrations, it covers all the basic Freudian concepts and the development of Freud's thought in a clear and comprehensive way, and also contains helpful suggestions for further reading. Don't let the "comic book" style put you off -- this volume is a serious introduction Freud's work.

Awesome book for anyone wanting a simple breakdown of a very complex man.

I was surprised to the point of mild shock as to how good this book was as a beginners introduction to Freud. I particularly enjoyed the background that led to the development of the psychoanalysis theory.

This is an accessible, fun book. It is sure to please novices and experts alike. Perfect for individuals that don't know Freud from a hole in the wall or those that have studied his work immensely.

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