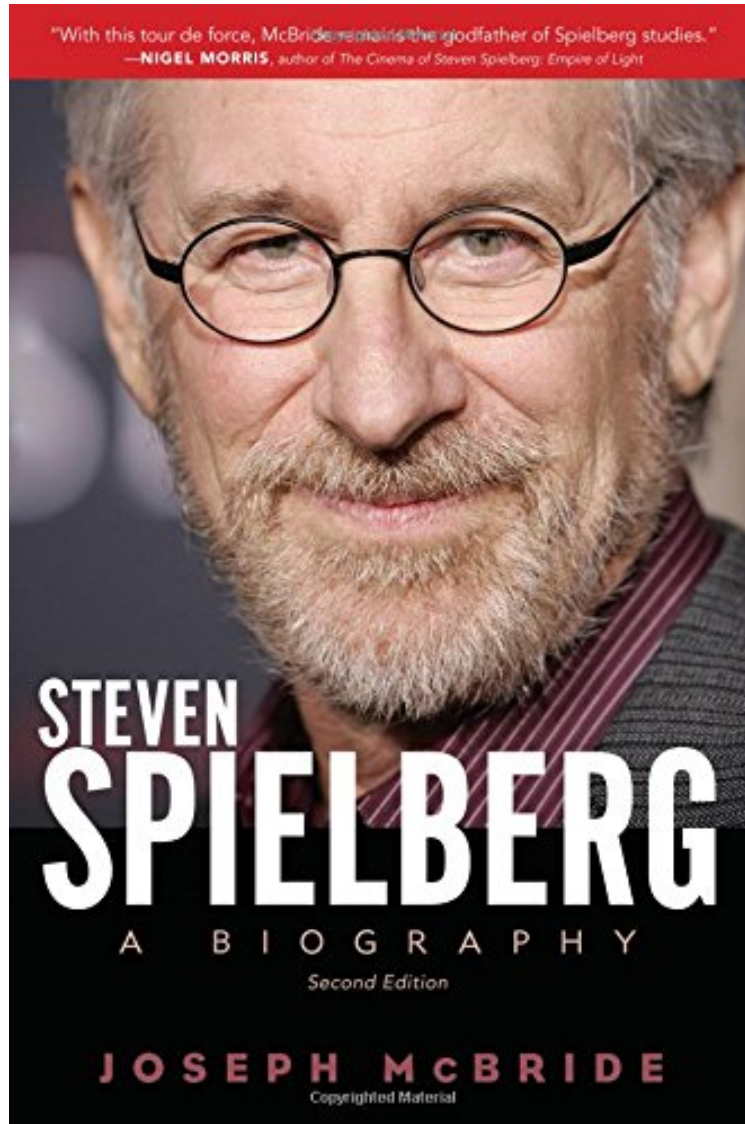


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Steven Spielberg: A Biography, Second Edition

Joseph McBride

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#115193 in Books University Press of Mississippi 2011-01-04 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 6.50 x 2.00l, 2.12 #File Name: 1604738367640 pages | File size: 15.Mb

Joseph McBride : Steven Spielberg: A Biography, Second Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Steven Spielberg: A Biography, Second Edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful! By Michael Jolls If you put Jon Meacham or Ron Chernow on the job of doing a biography on Steven Spielberg... well, here it is. Joseph McBride packs this herculean book with details on the early years. The second edition ends in 2009-ish. McBride doesn't just give you the history; he periodically inserts profound analysis of the director's films making it a substantially rich narrative. One note of

warning for Audible Listeners (no fault on McBrides part)... the audio book only is the full 1996 edition, and doesn't include the new chapters. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Thoughtful and Compelling Book By SDW67 This book might be the most in-depth work ever written on Spielberg and his films. Author McBride provides details about Spielberg's life and films that other writers have usually glossed over. Much of the details come from primary sources, such as Spielberg's father, as well as others' personal recollections, which gives the book the richness it wouldn't have had if only secondary sources had been utilized. One topic, however, mentioned in the book but not satisfactorily answered is why Spielberg's reported birth year went from 1947 for the first 25 years of his career in Hollywood to 1946 in the mid-1990s to present. Other than that, this is a book that no fan or first time reader of Spielberg will be disappointed in. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. People should know more about this guy. He should ... By Robt People should know more about this guy. He should be famous. He was the genius behind "1941" -- that in itself should make you curious.

Until the first edition of *Steven Spielberg: A Biography* was published in 1997, much about Spielberg's personality and the forces that shaped it had remained enigmatic, in large part because of his tendency to obscure and mythologize his own past. But in this first full-scale, in-depth biography of Spielberg, Joseph McBride reveals hidden dimensions of the filmmaker's personality and shows how deeply personal even his most commercial work has been. This new edition adds four chapters to Spielberg's life story, chronicling his extraordinarily active and creative period from 1997 to the present, a period in which he has balanced his executive duties as one of the partners in the film studio DreamWorks SKG with a remarkable string of films as a director. Spielberg's ambitious recent work including *Amistad*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *A. I. Artificial Intelligence*, *Minority Report*, *The Terminal* and *Munich* has continually expanded his range both stylistically and in terms of adventurous, often controversial, subject matter. *Steven Spielberg: A Biography* brought about a reevaluation of the great filmmaker's life and work by those who viewed him as merely a facile entertainer. This new edition guides readers through the mature artistry of Spielberg's later period in which he manages, against considerable odds, to run a successful studio while maintaining and enlarging his high artistic standards as one of America's most thoughtful, sophisticated, and popular filmmakers.

.com Writing a biography is tough enough when the subject is dead and the biographer must rely on a paper trail and recollections of contemporaries to relate the essence of the man or woman's life. When the subject still lives--and especially when he is as powerful as Steven Spielberg--a whole new set of problems emerge. For one thing, it's difficult to find anyone willing to criticize a man who pulls as many strings in the film industry as Spielberg; for another, how does one evaluate a career that is still in progress? If the definitive Spielberg biography cannot yet be written, Joseph McBride's *Steven Spielberg: A Biography* will suffice in the interim. Though certainly affected by the aforementioned constraints, McBride still creates an impressive portrait of the man behind *Schindler's List*, *E.T.*, *Jurassic Park*, and many, many more. McBride is especially effective at limning the contours of Spielberg's childhood. Born in 1946 to Arnold and Leah Spielberg, the young Steven endured both frequent moves and his parents' unhappy domestic life. These factors, combined with the anti-Semitism he encountered as a teenager, drove the introverted Spielberg to seek approval through filmmaking. In addition to exploring Spielberg's private life, McBride offers some perceptive criticism of his work. Anyone interested in the film industry and Spielberg's place in it will find Joseph McBride's *Steven Spielberg* a valuable resource. From *Library Journal* This is the first in-depth biography of the film director whose works? *E.T.*, *Jaws*, *Jurassic Park*, and *Schindler's List* among them? need no introduction to anyone with the slightest awareness of popular culture. Veteran Hollywood observer McBride (Frank Capra, *LJ* 5/1/91) has interviewed hundreds of the subject's colleagues, relatives, and friends, though Spielberg and most of his inner circle declined to cooperate. McBride attempts to correct what he sees as a strong bias among many film critics against Spielberg as a "child-man...incapable of dealing with the darker side of life." This leads to more analysis and defense of Spielberg's work than seems necessary, but, overall, this is a solid book that should be in every collection. ? Thomas J. Wiener, "Satellite DIRECT" Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Booklist* McBride's biography of the most successful filmmaker of all time is not as revelatory as his shocking Frank Capra (1992), because, unlike Capra, whose personal racism and anti-Semitism belied his films' sanguinity, Spielberg seems as straightforward, uncomplicated, and benign as his movies. By all accounts, from an early age Spielberg has been devoted to nearly nothing but filmmaking--which unfortunately makes for a rather dull biography. Still, drawing on interviews with the director-producer's family and friends, McBride gamely recounts the suburban childhood, including the feature-length film he directed while a high-school junior, that has informed Spielberg's work. ... Spielberg's 20 years of box-office triumph have made him overdue for the substantive biography that McBride delivers. Gordon Flagg