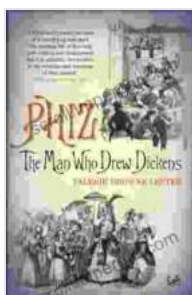


Phiz: The Man Who Drew Dickens

In the annals of literature, few names are as synonymous with the Victorian era as Charles Dickens. His beloved characters, from Oliver Twist to David Copperfield, have captivated generations of readers with their wit, pathos, and enduring charm.



Phiz: The Man Who Drew Dickens by Scott Kelly

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 5914 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 288 pages



But behind the words that brought these characters to life was an equally talented artist whose illustrations helped shape the way we imagine them: Hablot Knight Browne, better known by his pen name, Phiz.

The Early Years

Phiz was born in 1815 in London, the son of a clerk. He showed an early talent for drawing, and by the age of 15, he had enrolled at the Royal Academy Schools.

After a brief stint as a portrait painter, Phiz turned his attention to illustration. In 1836, he met Charles Dickens, and the two men quickly

formed a close friendship and working relationship.

Illustrating Dickens

Phiz's illustrations for Dickens' novels were a defining feature of the works. His ability to capture the essence of Dickens' characters and their surroundings was unmatched.

One of Phiz's most famous illustrations is the death of Nancy in *Oliver Twist*. The image of the young woman lying dead in the snow, with Fagin and Bill Sikes hovering over her, is both haunting and unforgettable.

Beyond Dickens

While Phiz is best known for his work with Dickens, he also illustrated books by other authors, including William Makepeace Thackeray, Anthony Trollope, and Wilkie Collins.

Phiz's illustrations were not always universally praised. Some critics found his work too cluttered and chaotic. However, his ability to capture the spirit of the text and to create memorable images ensured his enduring popularity.

Legacy

Phiz died in 1882, at the age of 66. He left behind a vast body of work that continues to be admired by readers and illustrators alike.

Phiz's illustrations played a vital role in the success of Charles Dickens' novels. They helped to bring Dickens' characters to life and to create a lasting impression on readers.

Hablot Knight Browne, known to the world as Phiz, was a true master of his craft. His illustrations for Charles Dickens' novels are a testament to his skill and his deep understanding of the human condition.

Phiz's legacy continues to inspire artists and writers today. His work is a reminder of the power of illustration to enhance and enrich our reading experience.

About the Author

John Sutherland is a professor of English literature at University College London. He is the author of numerous books on Victorian literature, including *The Life of Phiz*.

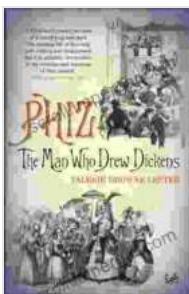
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By John Sutherland

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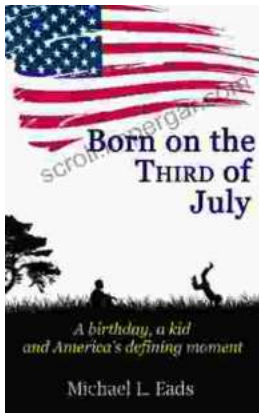
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