

GRAPHIC
BIOGRAPHY

Walt Disney





The name Walt Disney is known all over the world. He was the creator of Mickey Mouse and a pioneer* in the making of animated cartoons.



For millions of people who watched his weekly television program, he was an important part of something the family did together. He was a self-made man, and this is the story of how he did it.

He was born in Chicago in 1901, the fourth of five children. His father, Elias Disney, was working as a building contractor at the time.



His mother, Flora, was a school teacher before her marriage, but gave it up to raise her children.

* to originate or take part in the development of

When Walt was four years old, the family moved to a farm near Marceline, Missouri.



There was a lot of hard work to be done, and Elias made sure that his children did their share.

The two oldest boys didn't take to this new life. They ran away from home and went back to Chicago.

C'mon, Skinny!



Walt's best friend was his brother Roy. Roy was eight years older than Walt.

Look, Roy! I made this picture of Skinny!



Walt's father tried to make a living selling the apples from his two large orchards. After five years he knew he couldn't do it. He sold the farm and they moved to Kansas City.



A year went by. Roy finished high school and left home as his older brothers had done.

I wish I could go with you, Roy.

Me too, kid, but you've got to finish school.



Walt continued going to school and delivering papers. And on Saturdays he went to art classes at the Kansas City Art Institute.

Very good, Walt!



Sometimes in the evening, Elias Disney let his son go to the movies with a friend whose father owned a theater.



Walt used some of the jokes he saw in the movies to put together an act for the local amateur shows.



The movies they saw were silent. The actors would move their lips to speak, and the audience could read what they were saying at the bottom of the screen.

In 1917, the year the United States entered World War I, Elias Disney sold the paper route and invested his money in a jelly factory in Chicago. When the family moved, Walt stayed behind to finish the school year.

That summer he worked as a "news butcher" on the Santa Fe Railroad.



In the fall he went to Chicago. He also worked in the jelly factory and took art classes at night.



One day, after school was out, Walt got a message from Roy. He was passing through Chicago on his way to a navy training camp and asked Walt to meet him at the train station.

Gee, kid! It's great to see you! You've gotten so tall!



They talked until the order was given for Roy and the other recruits* to board the train.

You there! On board! Train leaves in half a minute!



The officer had taken sixteen-year-old Walt for one of the recruits. It made him feel proud ... and it gave him an idea.

* a newly enlisted or drafted member of the armed forces

Walt came back to the States in 1919. He headed for Kansas City to look for work as an artist.

His first job was at Gray's Advertising Company. There he met another young artist by the name of Ub Iwerks.



By December, both Walt and Ub had been laid off.

Why don't we start our own business? We could do ads and letterheads and things like that.

Sure! Why not?



A small newspaper gave them some office space in exchange for artwork. Walt bought supplies with money he had saved. They were in business!

We got two new ads today.



A few months later, they went out of business.

Walt and Ub were not doing well when they heard of a job opening at the Kansas City Film Ad Company.

Forty dollars a week! That's more than we both make together!

Why don't you take the job? I'll stay over here.



Disney convinced the company to hire Ub too.

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STEVE JOBS





All his life, Steve Jobs worked to change the way people used technology. He created innovative products that people loved to use. In an interview, Jobs said it best: "We started out to get a computer in the hands of everyday people, and we succeeded beyond our wildest dreams."

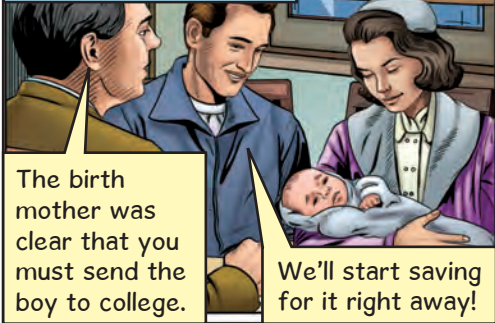


I love him dearly, but I can't take care of him.

Don't worry. We will find him a loving home.

On February 24, 1955, a baby boy was born in San Francisco, California. The biological parents were two college students who could not raise the boy. His birth mother decided to place him for adoption.

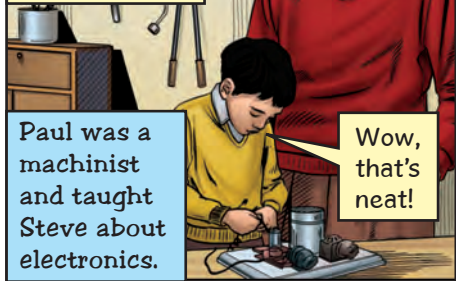
Paul and Clara Jobs adopted the baby boy. They named him Steven Paul Jobs.



The birth mother was clear that you must send the boy to college.

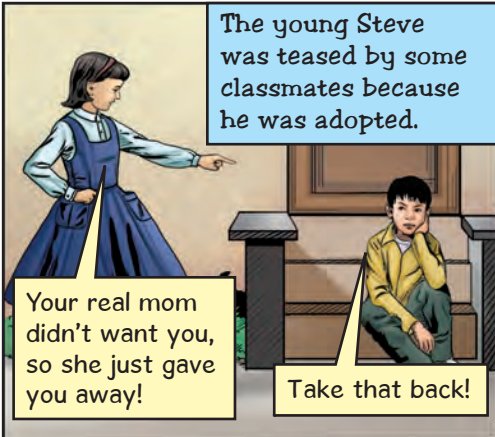
We'll start saving for it right away!

The speaker turns that electricity into the song that you hear.



Paul was a machinist and taught Steve about electronics.

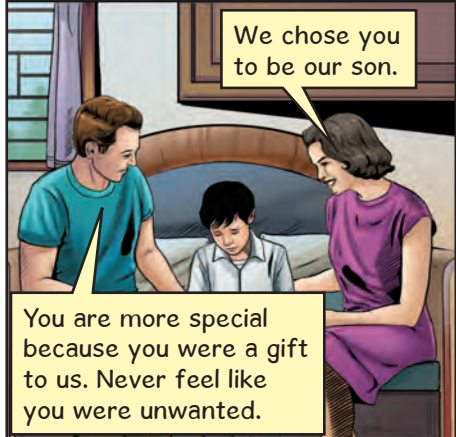
Wow, that's neat!



The young Steve was teased by some classmates because he was adopted.

Your real mom didn't want you, so she just gave you away!

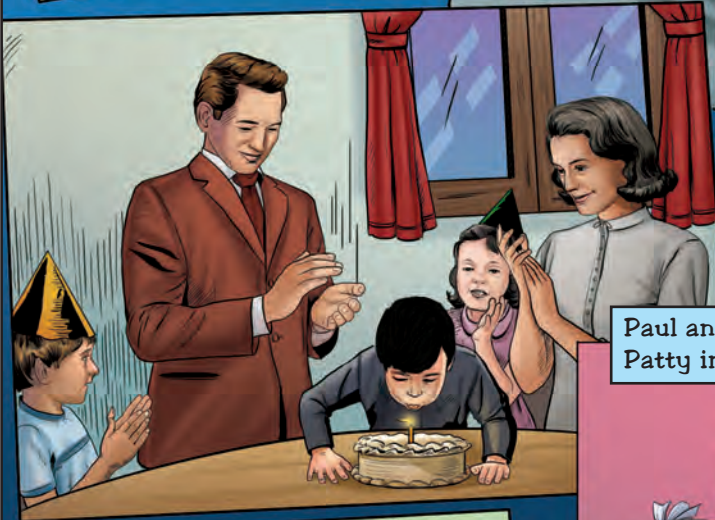
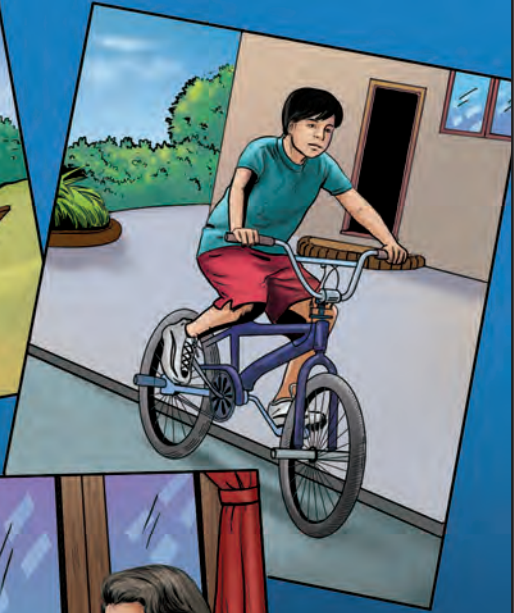
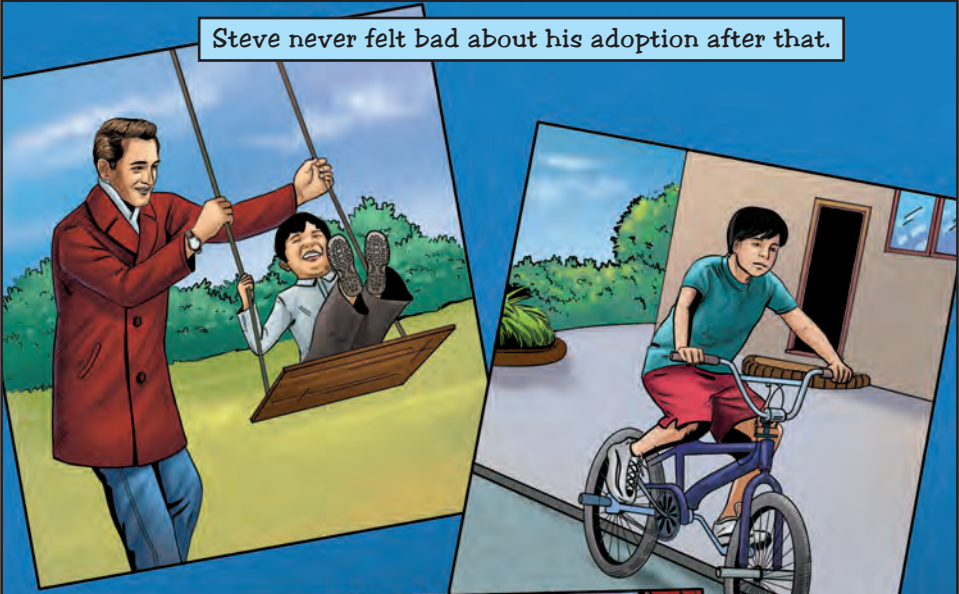
Take that back!



We chose you to be our son.

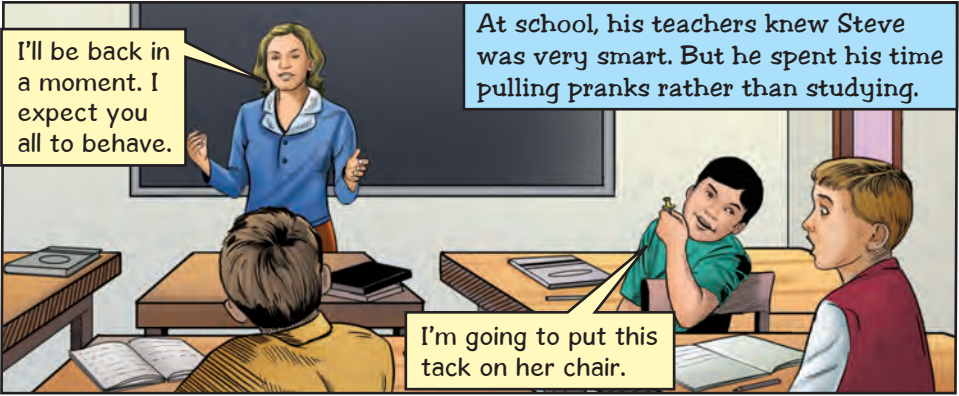
You are more special because you were a gift to us. Never feel like you were unwanted.

Steve never felt bad about his adoption after that.



Paul and Clara adopted Patty in 1958.

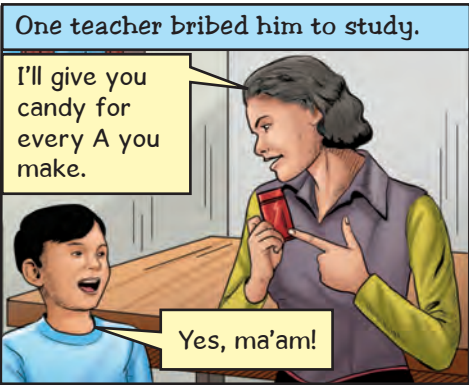




I'll be back in a moment. I expect you all to behave.

At school, his teachers knew Steve was very smart. But he spent his time pulling pranks rather than studying.

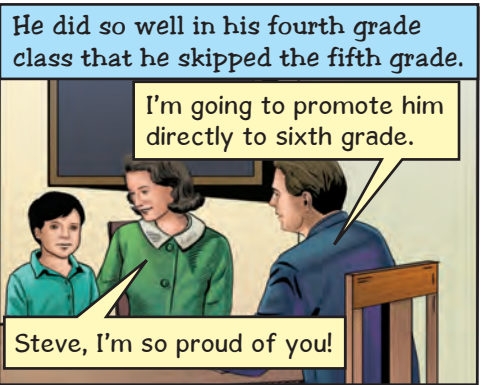
I'm going to put this tack on her chair.



One teacher bribed him to study.

I'll give you candy for every A you make.

Yes, ma'am!



He did so well in his fourth grade class that he skipped the fifth grade.

I'm going to promote him directly to sixth grade.

Steve, I'm so proud of you!



Now Steve was the youngest kid in class. Some of his classmates bullied him.



I can't stand it there! The kids are so mean!

Honey, we've got to do something.

Steve was so unhappy that he asked his parents to move him to another school.



The family of four moved to Los Altos, California, near the electronics company, Hewlett Packard.



In high school, Steve met someone who would have a big impact on his life. He met college student Steve Wozniak. Everybody called him Woz.

Hey! What's wrong with the TV!?!?



The two Steves quickly became friends. They both loved playing with electronics. Sometimes they would get into trouble with a TV-jamming machine they invented.

Steve was already ahead of his time. For the high school talent show, he put on a laser light show. This was in 1972 before most people had heard of lasers.



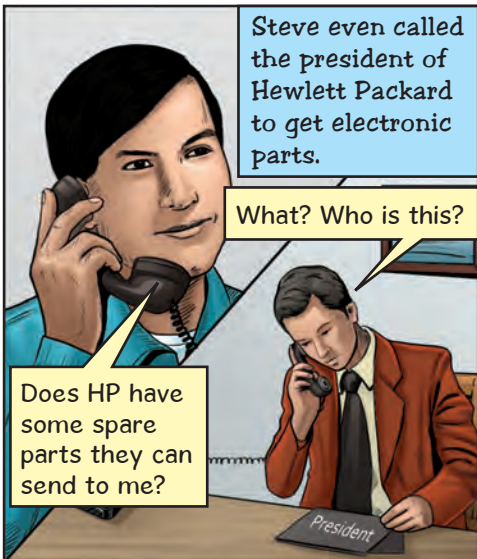
Wow!

How'd he do that?!?

I've never seen anything like this!



He loved attending his electronics class.



Steve even called the president of Hewlett Packard to get electronic parts.

What? Who is this?

Does HP have some spare parts they can send to me?

In 1973 after high school, Steve attended Reed College in Oregon. But he was bored and unhappy.



He snuck into creative classes, such as calligraphy.



He lost his dorm room because he wasn't enrolled in school anymore. He slept on friends' floors.



He returned soda bottles for the nickel deposit to buy food.



Steve was struggling to find meaning in life. He studied different religions, especially Buddhism. He ate only fruits and rarely showered.