



Chrysalis: Maria Sibylla Merian and the Secrets of Metamorphosis



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Today, an entomologist in a laboratory can gaze at a butterfly pupa with a microscope so powerful that the swirling cells on the pupa's skin look like a galaxy. She can activate a single gene or knock it out. What she can't do is discover how the insect behaves in its natural habitat—which means she doesn't know what steps to take to preserve it from extinction, nor how any particular gene may interact with the environment. Four hundred years ago, a fifty-year-old Dutch woman set sail on a solo scientific expedition to study insect metamorphosis. She could not have imagined the routine magic that scientists perform today—but her absolute insistence on studying

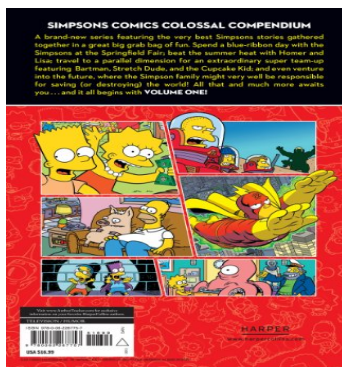


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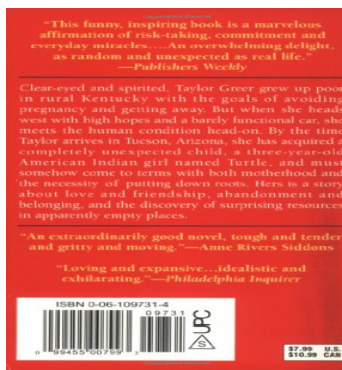
Book by ADEC



Simpsons Comics Colossal Compendium Volume 1

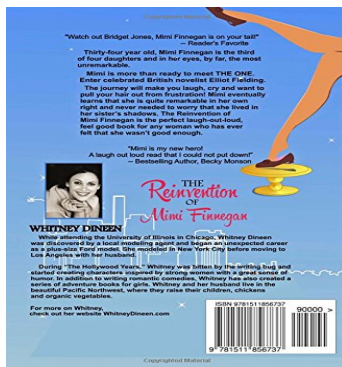
Bongo raises the bar with the premier volume of its brand new Simpsons Comics trade series Simpsons Comics Colossal Compendium: Volume 1. The Simpsons notoriety will be hard to keep under wraps with this brand new collection of comic stories that will catapult them once again onto the world stage.

T



The Bean Trees: A Novel

Barbara Kingsolver's 1988 debut novel is a classic work of American fiction. Now a standard in college literature classes across the nation, and a book that appears in translation across the globe, The Bean Trees is not only a literary masterpiece but a popular triumph—an narrative that reads



The Reinvention of Mimi Finnegan

Move over Bridget Jones, here comes Mimi Finnegan! Thirty-four year old, Mimi Finnegan is the third of four daughters and in her eyes, by far, the most unremarkable. She has no singular accomplishment that can stand up to any of her sisters. And if that isn't enough, she is the only single

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What others say about this ebook:

Review 1:

Wonderfully written. Some nice image inserts, but mostly the author explores the time period and how Maria was a fore runner for her time.

Review 2:

I thought there would be more pictures of her art?there are NONE.

Review 3:

Chrysalis here is both a reference to Merian's deep interest in butterflies and to Todd's perception of how Merian's life unfolded. This book is a study of both a woman's life and her passion, as well as her skill as an artist and the impact her work has had down the years. Todd put a lot of research and passion into this book. The book is a gem, but it may not interest all readers.

Merian was German but settled in Amsterdam. She was from a remarkable family, and connected several other women who were also artists. She was a wife and mother, but had remarkable force of character and took freedoms many women would not have dared. At the age of 53 she sold many paintings and took ship to Surinam (then a Dutch colony) where she sketched and investigated insects and animals for more than a year. She went back to Amsterdam and on the basis of her Surinam experiences, created the body of work she is best known for. She was fascinated by caterpillars forming a chrysalis and seeing which butterfly emerged. Todd's book also examines the varying reputation of Merian's work over time.

Merian emerges as a highly independent woman and a professional artist, both in an era which we moderns have stereotyped as being completely dominated by men. This woman belies the stereotypes in living a full, remarkable life.

Review 4:

First of all, I love the work of Maria Sibylla Merian. I also love the Mottahedeh tableware pattern inspired by her work and called "Merian". So far, this book is a delight to read and the author truly has a gift with words. I received this very soon after placing my order and the book arrived in even better condition than described.

Review 5:

Maria Sibylla Merian was a rad science lady and I'm sure this would be great to give to anyone ever.

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