

Before They Were Famous

Walt Disney



Written by Stephen Krensky
Illustrated by Bobbie Houser



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Picturing the Present

Young Walt Disney was pretty pleased with himself. Here he was, a new student at his Chicago high school. He had started out a complete unknown. And yet, after only a month, he was already the cartoonist for the school magazine.



Walter Elias Disney



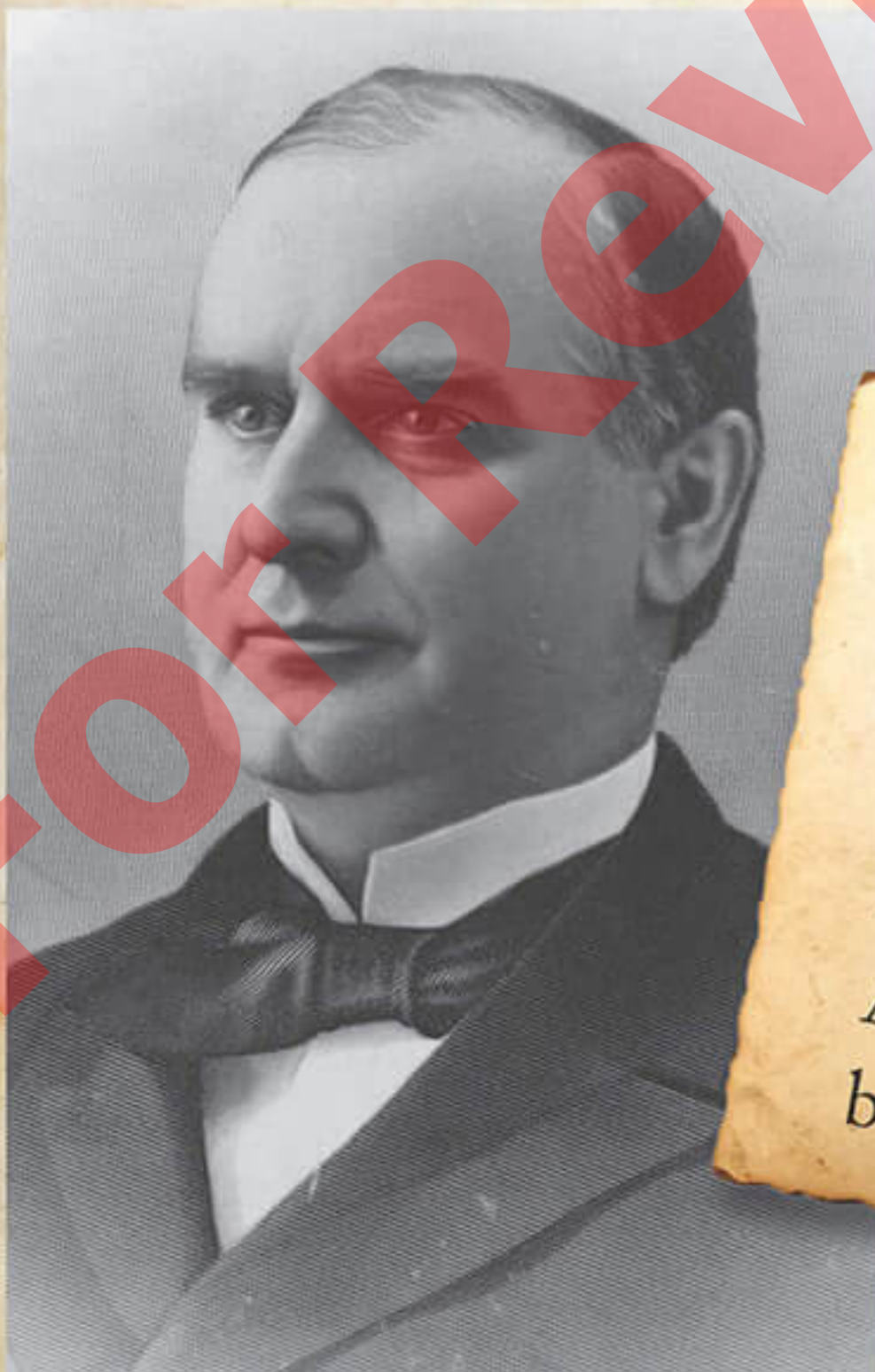


McKinley High School



Fun Facts

Walt went to William McKinley High School, named after the American president who had been assassinated in 1901.



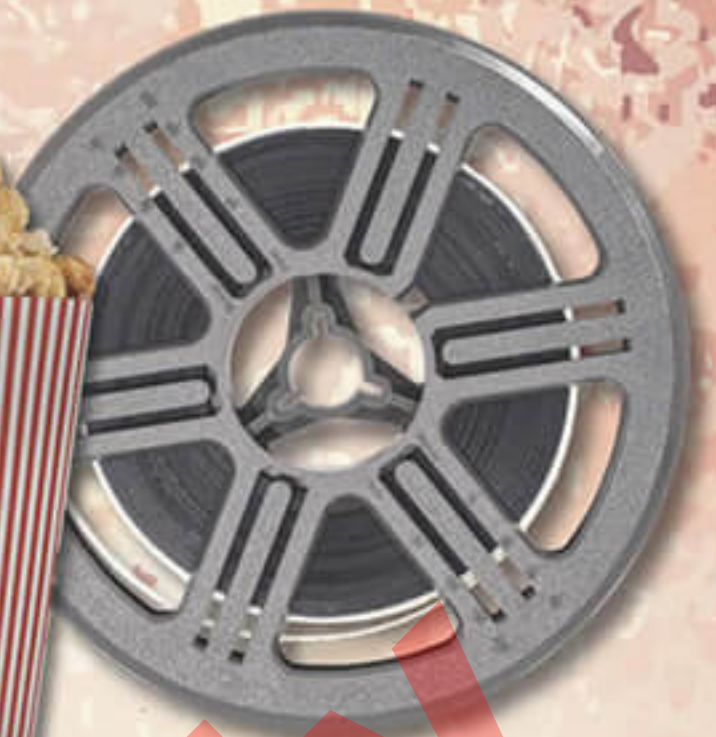
President William McKinley

Walt had liked to draw for as long as he could remember. Even in class, he spent hours **doodling** characters in slightly different positions on the pages of his textbooks. Later, he would show his classmates what he had done. If he **riffled** the pages just right, the blur of pictures made it look like the characters were moving.





Charlie Chaplin



"The Tramp"



Fun Facts

One of Disney's favorite actors, Charlie Chaplin, first introduced his most famous character, "The Tramp," in a film in 1914.

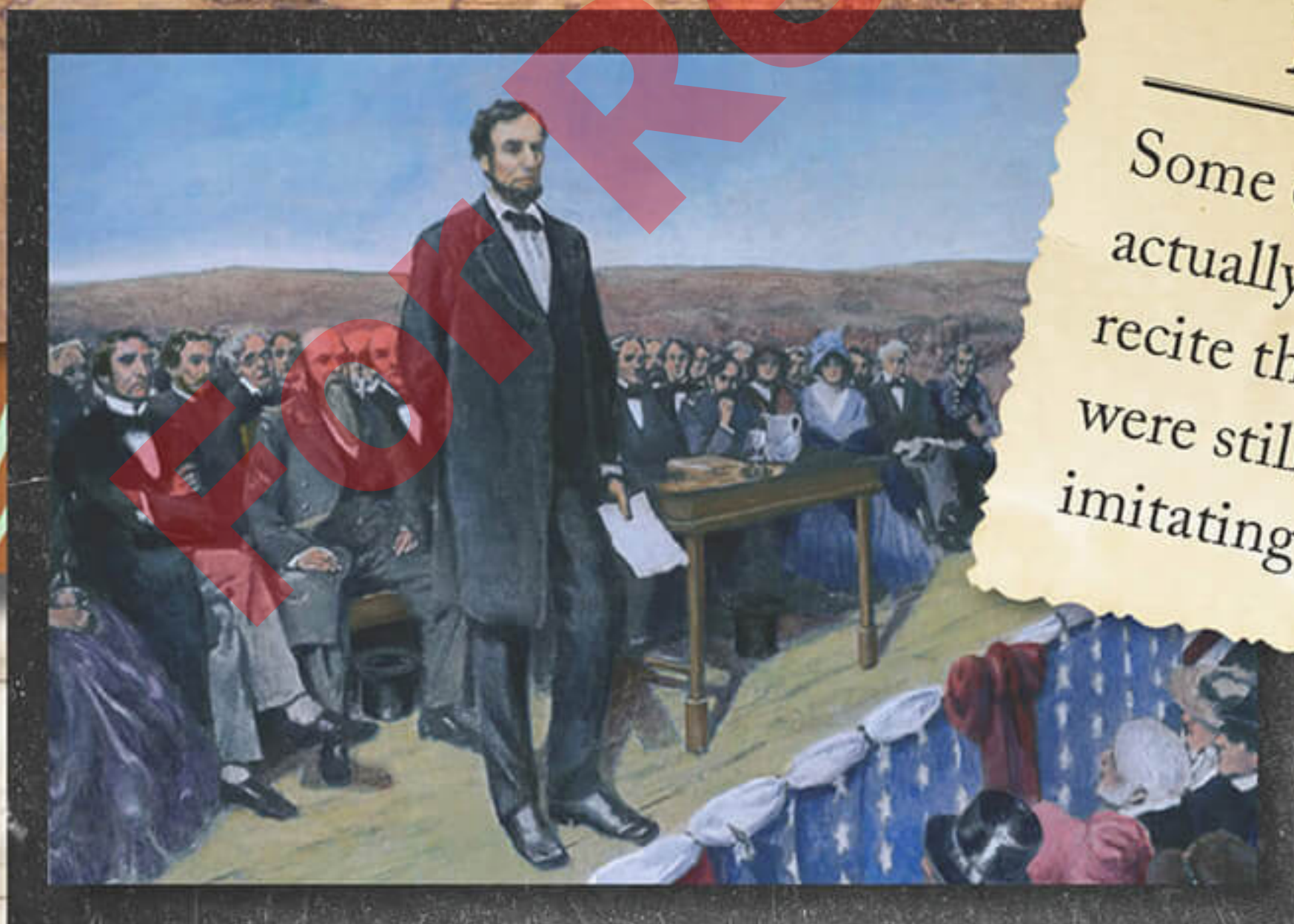
Growing Up Fast

When Walt wasn't drawing, he liked to be in the middle of things. As he later recalled, "I'd do anything to attract attention."



Fun Facts

Some of the people who had actually heard Lincoln himself recite the *Gettysburg Address* were still alive when Walt was imitating him.



One time in fifth grade, Walt made a cardboard stovepipe hat, drew a fake wart on his cheek, and came to school dressed as Abraham Lincoln. Standing in front of his class, he went on to **recite** the president's famous *Gettysburg Address*.

