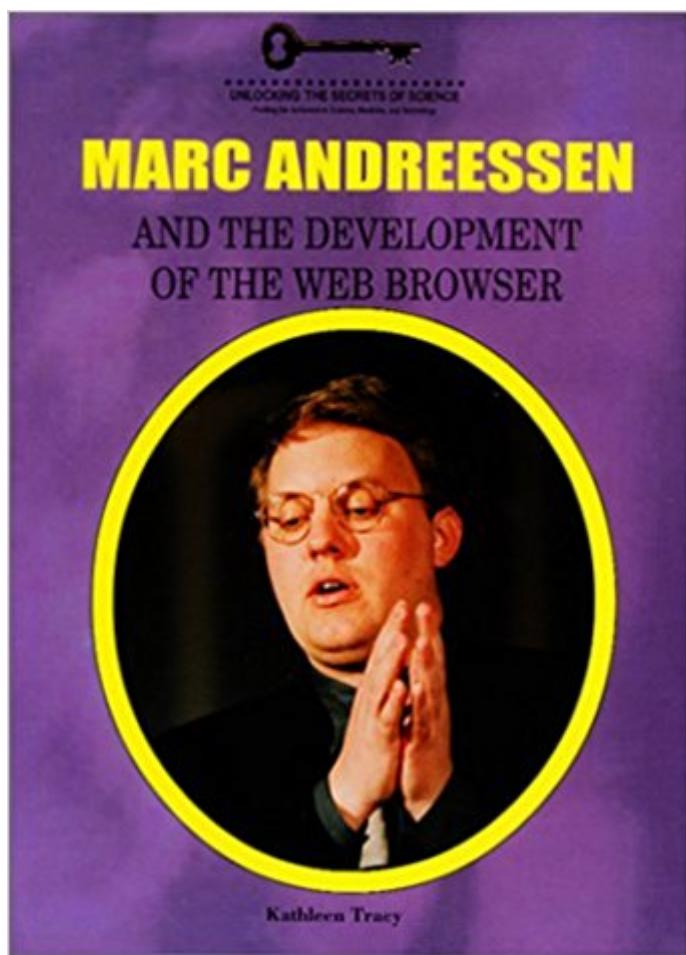


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Marc Andreessen And The Development Of The Web Browser (Unlocking The Secrets Of Science)



Synopsis

Written especially for young adult readers, this series helps place each significant invention, discovery, or development in historical perspective while exploring the life of the person responsible for each breakthrough. Readers will travel back in time to learn about each important scientific, medical, or technological discovery. No science fiction story even approximates the mystery and suspense contained in these true science biographies. Co-founder of Netscape; inventor of the web browser

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Gr 5-8-Tracy opens with an explanation of how Cold War communication needs led to the development of the ARPANET, the forerunner of what would eventually become the Internet. She then traces Andreessen's childhood and education, emphasizing his enduring fascination with computers. She also discusses his work at the University of Illinois where he helped create Mosaic, the first Web browser to make the Internet accessible to the general public, and explains how his disappointment with the handling of its marketing led to his development of the competing Netscape Navigator. She briefly describes his battle with Microsoft over supremacy in the Web-browser market and also details his latest Internet venture, Loudcloud. The author is admiring of her subject,

emphasizing his creativity and philanthropy. Full-page photos of Andreessen and other computer innovators add little to the text, but there is a good list for further reading with both print and Internet resources. Although this book would serve report writers, it is often dry and will not hold the interest of general readers. Tracy fails to capture Andreessen's passion for the Internet or how his competitive nature influenced his legal battle with Microsoft. Daniel Ehrenhaft's *Marc Andreessen* (21st Century, 2001) provides a better picture of the man's unique personality and tells his story in a much more compelling manner.

Mary Mueller, Rolla Junior High School, MO

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