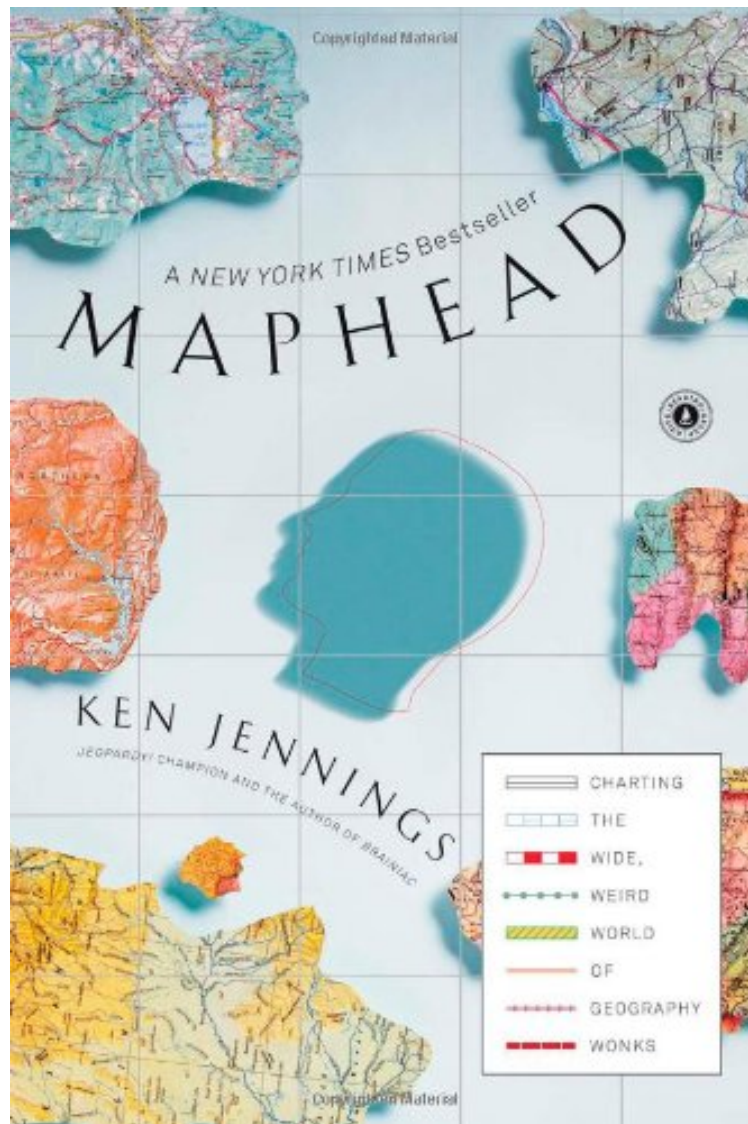


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## Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks

Ken Jennings

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**Ken Jennings : Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks:

53 of 53 people found the following review helpful. but it's ruined by Ken Jennings constantly trying to make terrible puns throughout the book By Kenzo Yasuda The information provided in this book is interesting, but it's ruined by Ken Jennings constantly trying to make terrible puns throughout the book. I found myself sighing or rolling my eyes more often than I should have for a book like this 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By E's

BestGreat Book. Easy read and enjoyable. 11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, but needed editing. By jInteresting subject matter, but could have used some heavy editing. It was a bit rambly and self-indulgent, with frequent anecdotes about the author instead of the subject matter at hand. However, there's plenty of map info to satisfy map heads.

Record-setting Jeopardy! champion and New York Times bestselling author Ken Jennings explores the world of maps and map obsessives, a literary gem (*The Atlantic*) now available in paperback. Ken Jennings takes readers on a world tour of geogeeks from the London Map Fair to the bowels of the Library of Congress, from the prepubescent geniuses at the National Geographic Bee to the computer programmers at Google Earth. Each chapter delves into a different aspect of map culture: highpointing, geocaching, road atlas rallying, even the unreal estate charted on the maps of fiction and fantasy. Jennings also considers the ways in which cartography has shaped our history, suggesting that the impulse to make and read maps is as relevant today as it has ever been. From the Here be dragons parchment maps of the Age of Discovery to the spinning globes of grade school to the postmodern revolution of digital maps and GPS, *Maphead* is filled with intriguing details, engaging anecdotes, and enlightening analysis. If you're an inveterate map lover yourself or even if you're among the cartographically clueless who can get lost in a supermarket, let Ken Jennings be your guide to the strange world of mapheads.

.com Best Books of the Month, September 2011 Ken Jennings, best known for his epic winning streak on Jeopardy! in 2004, returns to the writing world with *Maphead*, a charming, funny, and of course, informational book about the world of maps and the people who love them. Even if maps are not your thing, Jennings writes about them with such affection and humor that the topic becomes fascinating; the clever captions for the maps in the book alone are worth the read (the first map in the book compares shapes of places that were separated at birth and are therefore soul mates. Included: Lake Michigan and Sweden). From the politics of geocaching to the ups and downs of the contestants participating in the National Geographic Bee (which, according to Alex Trebek, should have its own prime-time show like the spelling bee), Jennings captures the excitement and wonder of places. --Caley Anderson Jennings is a very witty, insightful writer and has written an entertaining and educational book about maps and the geeks who obsess over them. Pauline Frommer, travel writer and founding editor of *Frommers.com* Its a fun read that's not just for wonks. The Salt Lake Tribune[A] spirited laymans history of cartography. Harpers About the Author Ken Jennings won seventy-four games and \$2.52 million on Jeopardy!, both U.S. game show records. His book, *Brainiac*, about his bizarre Jeopardy! adventures and the phenomenon of trivia in American culture, was a national bestseller. He currently lives outside Seattle, with his family and a deeply unstable Labrador retriever named Banjo.