

Leonard Michael Greene Biography

Leonard Michael Greene

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

Leonard Michael Greene Biography.....	1
Contents.....	2
Biography.....	3

Biography

Leonard Michael Greene is the inventor of a number of devices that are of integral importance in modern aviation. Born in New York City in 1918, he received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the City University of New York.

Greene's most significant invention is the aircraft stall warning device. In aviation, a stall means something very different than it does in an automobile, where it refers to an engine shutdown. In an aircraft, a stall indicates that the airflow over the wings is no longer sufficient to provide lift -- essentially, a stalled wing ceases to function. This happens at low airspeeds, such as may occur during an excessively steep climb, and the consequences can be disastrous. In the early part of the twentieth century, stalls were a leading cause of aviation deaths, and Greene himself saw a stall fatality and realized the pilot had no way of knowing what was happening. Forming a corporation in White Plains for production of aircraft equipment, he invented a device in 1946 that warns pilots of an impending stall, and no modern airplane can legally be without one. Greene's company, the Safe Flight Instrument Corporation, now produces numerous other aircraft safety equipment in addition to the stall warning device.

In recognition of his singular contributions to aviation safety, the National Business Aircraft Association awarded Greene their 1996 Award for Meritorious Service to Aviation. Some of Greene's other major contributions to modern aviation are the development of wind shear warning devices, as well as theoretical work on supersonic travel and aircraft. He remains the president of the company he founded in 1946.