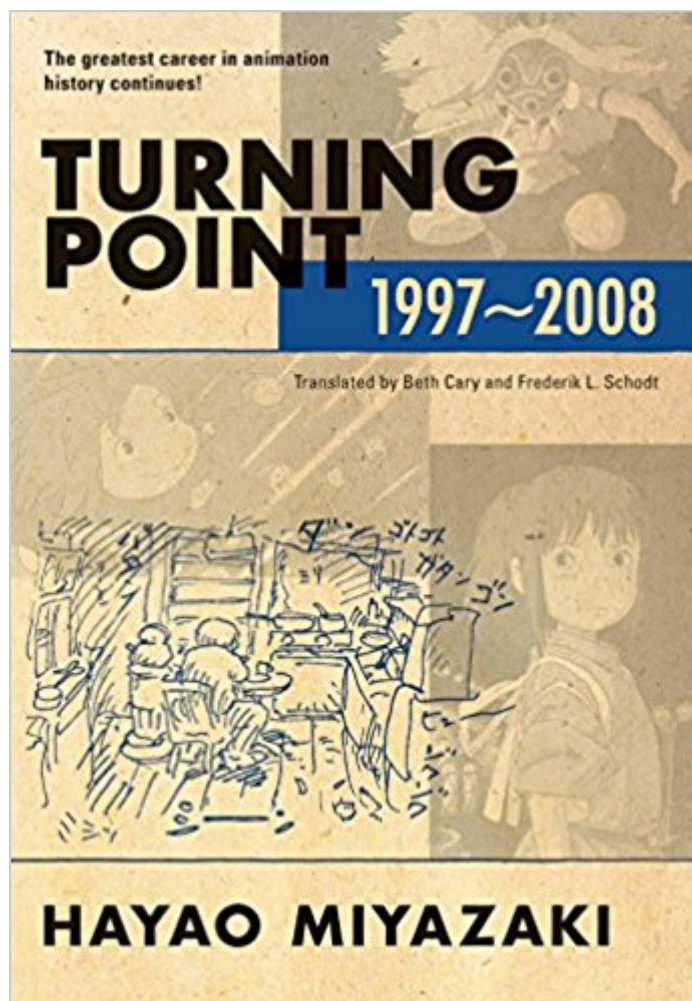


The book was found

Turning Point, 1997-2008



Synopsis

In the mid-1990s, filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki moved from success to success as his work found an audience outside of Japan. His animated films of the era, including *Princess Mononoke*, *Howl's Moving Castle*, and *Ponyo*, were internationally lauded, and Miyazaki won an Academy Award® in 2003 for his popular and critical hit *Spirited Away*. Follow Miyazaki as his vision matures, as cinema-lovers worldwide embrace his creations, and as critics such as Roger Ebert take up the cause of animation and Miyazaki's films. In a legendary career, these crucial years represent the turning point.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Hayao Miyazaki is one of Japan's most beloved animation directors. In 2005 he was awarded the Venice International Film Festival's Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement, and his Studio Ghibli received the festival's Osella Award for overall achievement in 2004. Miyazaki's films include *Spirited Away*, winner of the 2002 Academy Award® for Best Animated Feature Film, as well as *Castle in the Sky*, *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Kiki's Delivery Service*, *Princess Mononoke*, *Howl's Moving Castle*, and *Ponyo*, all of which have received great acclaim in the U.S. Miyazaki's other achievements include the highly regarded manga series *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* and *Starting Point: 1979-1996*, a collection of essays, interviews, and memoirs that chronicle his early career and the development of his theories of animation. Both are published in English by VIZ Media.

Really enjoyed this book but I had issues with so many interviews being similar. So you end up reading the same questions and same responses repeatedly. I also thought it was naive of Miyazaki to grossly generalize people on quite a few occasions in the interviews. In several parts he pretty much says Americans could never understand some aspect of cinema because their movies are all about blowing stuff up and that's what they all enjoy. I mean there are variations of this kind of thing where he takes American POP CULTURE (ACK!) and uses it to generalize 300 million people. He does throw around other generalizations about Japan, Europe etc as well. Anyhow, I did get a lot of what I was hoping for too. You get a sense of where he got certain ideas for movies and why he made certain decisions in directing a film a certain way. You can get some of these ideas about Princess Mononoke, Spirited Away, and Howl's Moving Castle. Anyways, it was very much like the previous book, "Starting Point" but this one (Turning Point) was mostly interviews, some poems, and a few essays or they might've been speeches. No articles that I can remember. There were chunks of content that could've been left out without losing anything. As I said, content is repeated in a few places. Far worse in the first half of the book. Worth reading for people who want more insight into this masterful director with the understanding that there are a few awkward and unrelated comments to take with a grain of salt. I still give it four stars because for good or bad, it's mostly what I wanted. And in the afterword, Miyazaki writes about how uncomfortable he was/is about the book. That he felt it misrepresented him or at least didn't identify fully with the book in some ways which is probably the nature of biographies. Views change and also generalizations fade when you're standing in front of someone shaking their hand. And besides, pretty much everyone is contrary at some point, and it's going to be especially obvious when interview after interview is documented like this.

My daughter and I love Hayao Miyazakisan! These books (we have the first volume also) are a great addition to the Anime library she has.

If you're interested in seeing what kind of world view Hayao Miyazaki has, or his thoughts on animation and film in general, I'd highly recommend Starting Point and Turning Point. Definitely a great read for Miyazaki fans.

Christmas present for grand daughter

interesting

Great read. An insightful look into one of the masterminds behind Studio Ghibli. For anyone interested in animation, this is a must.

Now that we face Miyazaki's retirement from films, one can only wonder how he was at his peak the last 10 years of his career. Beginning with "Princess Mononoke", you can notice in every conversation in this book that Mr. Miyazaki was reaching new ground beyond what animation has been all over the world. Here you may find more conversations and interviews than articles, and you will perceive how Hayao Miyazaki has become a cultural force in Japan and all over the world. It's a must have for every film enthusiast who wants to understand the greatness and importance of Miyazaki's work. Also you may find interesting what Miyazaki really thinks of Disney animation.

great inspiring book

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